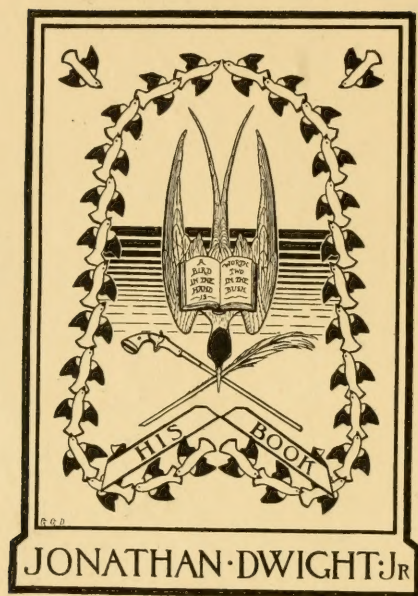


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~ KEY ~
TO THE
WATER BIRDS
OF
FLORIDA

Charles B. Cory.



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Birds

KEY

TO THE

WATER BIRDS OF FLORIDA.

BY

Anney. c
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AUTHOR OF

"THE BEAUTIFUL AND CURIOUS BIRDS OF THE WORLD," "THE BIRDS
OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS," "THE BIRDS OF HAITI AND SAN
DOMINGO," "THE BIRDS OF THE WEST INDIES," "A NATU-
RALIST IN THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS," etc., etc.

FOR SALE BY

BRADLEE WHIDDEN.

BOSTON, MASS.

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INTRODUCTION TO BIRD KEY.

IN preparing the present Key, I have striven to make it as simple and non-technical as possible, my object being to enable any one totally unfamiliar with birds to identify with comparative ease any species of the Florida water birds. Let us assume, for example, that a young man has killed a duck and wishes to identify it; he turns over a few pages of the Key until he finds a figure of a bird which resembles his. He then measures his specimen and finds that the length of his bird is 16 inches and the length of the wing is 7.40 inches. He finds that the ducks are divided into groups, and the group to which his duck would seem to belong was the one comprising birds having a lobe or flap on the little hind toe, the belly white, and which show more or less white or grayish white on the head. In this group he finds there are eleven species, but only four of them which approximate near enough in size to by any possibility be his duck. These are the Ruddy Duck, the two Scaup Ducks, and the Ring-necked Duck. Upon reading the description of these birds he finds that, as his duck is not chestnut and the tail feathers are not stiff and pointed, it cannot be the Ruddy Duck. Of the three remaining species two have the speculum white, the third has it gray. As his duck has the speculum gray it must, therefore, be a female Ring-necked Duck. To be absolutely positive of this he turns over to the latter part of the Key as indicated by "See page" so and so, at the end of each species; he will then be able to read a full description of the bird and so remove any doubt as to the correct identification of the species.

All measurements of birds are given in inches and fractions of an inch. The following diagrams will illustrate how a bird should be measured, and the chart will be useful to the young student of ornithology who may not be familiar with the technical terms used in describing birds. The sexes are indicated by the signs of Mars and Venus: the male, of course, being given that of Mars, ♂, and the female ♀.

MEASUREMENTS.

LENGTH. — Distance in a straight line from the end of the bill to the tip of the longest tail feather. Occasionally the middle feathers are much elongated, as in *Phaethon* and *Stercorarius*.

WING. — Distance from the carpal joint (bend of the wing) to the tip of the longest primary.

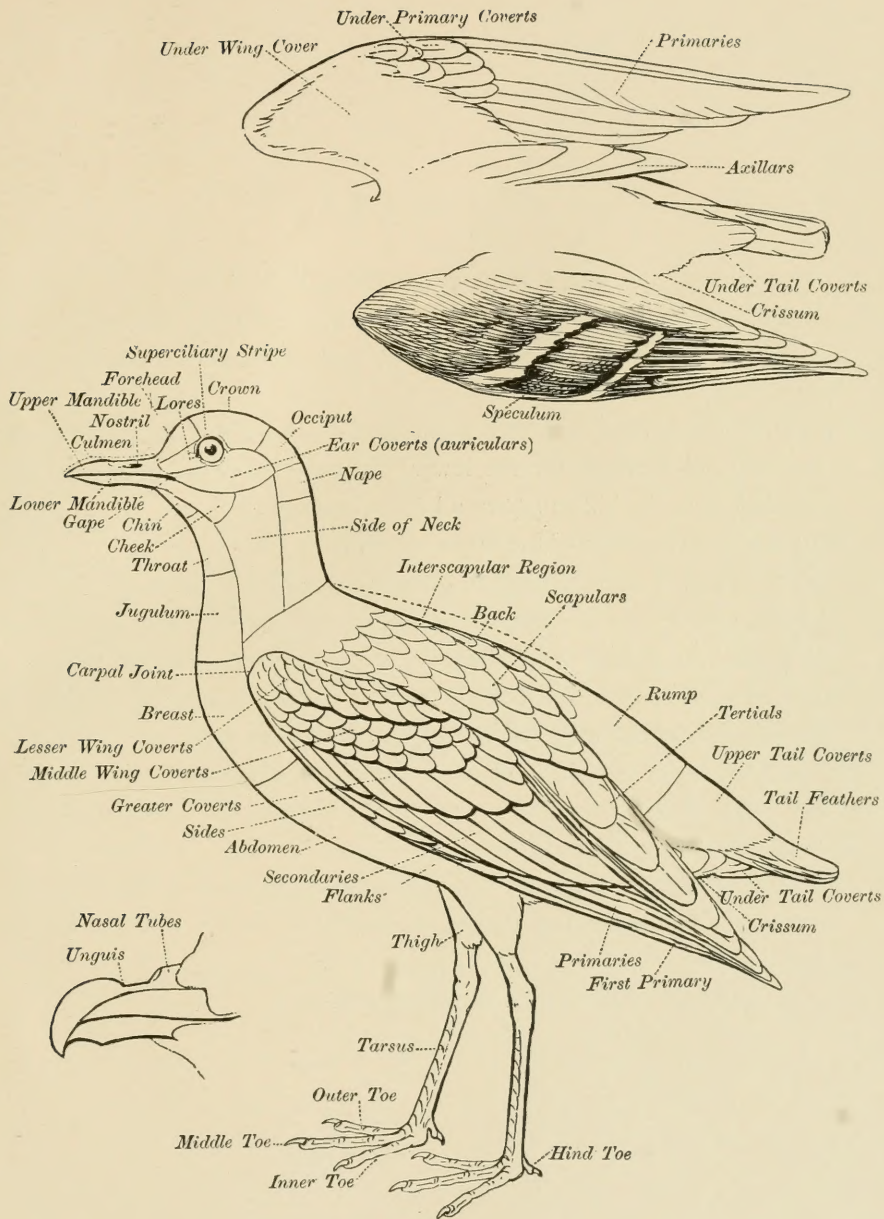
TAIL. — Distance from the tip of the longest tail feather to its base (the point where it enters the body).

BILL. — The distance in a straight line from where the bill (upper mandible) joins the skin of the forehead (A) to the tip (B). (There are a few exceptions to this rule, such as birds with frontal plate, etc. Some curved bills are measured along the curve of the *culmen*, but in cases of this kind it should always be so stated.)

TARSUS. — Distance in front of the leg from what *appears to be* the knee joint (end of tibia) to the root of the middle toe.

All measurements are given in inches and fractions of an inch.

Birds vary so much in size that the length of any one specimen cannot be accepted as a standard for others of the same species. The length measure is, nevertheless, of value to enable us to form an approximate idea of the size of the bird; the length of the wing is much less variable and is an important aid to the identification of certain species.



GLOSSARY.

Nearly all the terms used in describing a bird may be more easily and clearly understood by examining the accompanying figure than from a written description; a few, however, may, perhaps, require a word of explanation.

MANDIBLES. — Some authors use the word *maxilla* for the upper half of the bill, and *mandible* for the lower. I prefer, however, to describe the two halves of the bill as *upper* and *lower mandible*.

CULMEN. — The ridge of the upper mandible.

GONYS. — Lower outline (middle) of under mandible.

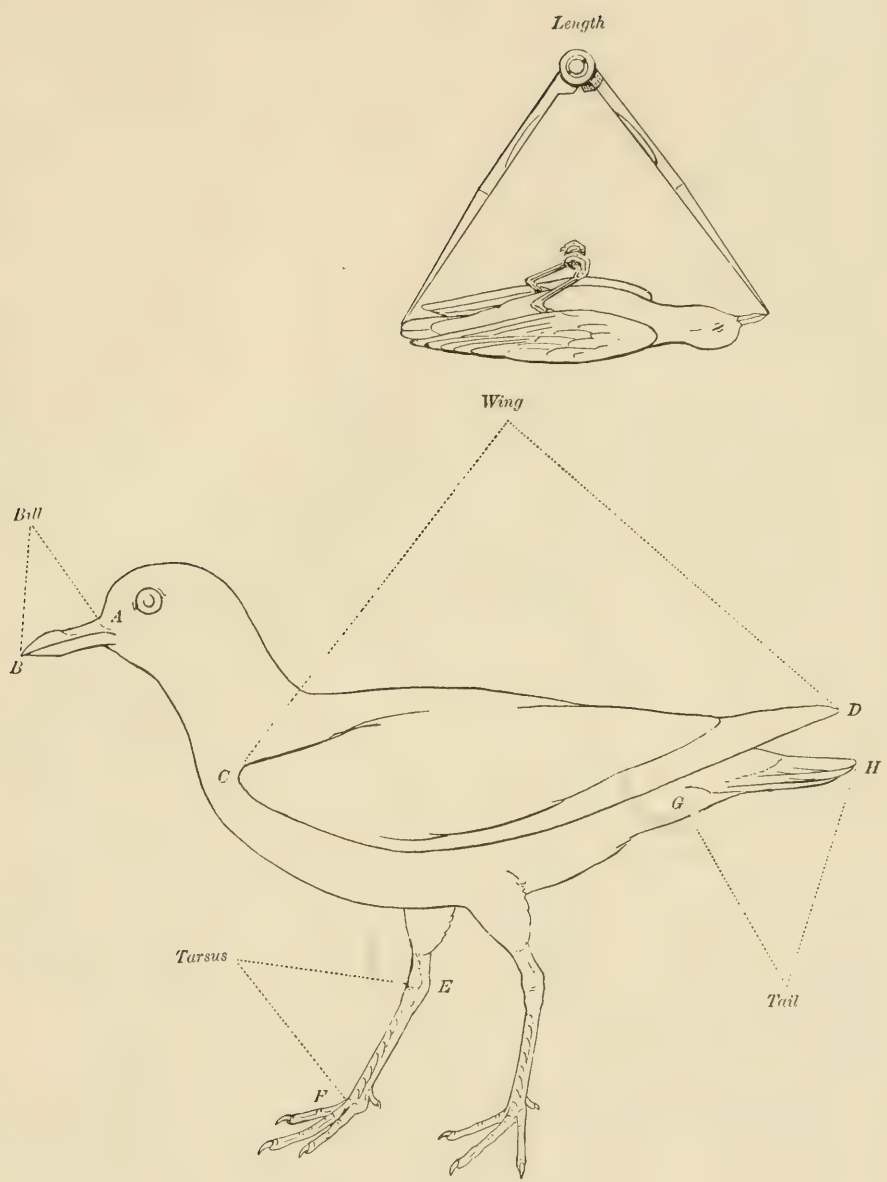
UNGUIS. — The nail on the end of the upper mandible; very pronounced in several families of water birds,— Ducks, Pelicans, and Petrels.

AXILLARS or AXILLARY PLUMES. — Several elongated feathers at the junction of the wing and body (Lat. *axilla*, the arm-pit).

SPECULUM. — A wing band or patch (usually of a different color from the rest of the wing) formed by the terminal portion of the secondaries; very noticeable in the Ducks.

TARSUS. — Extends from the root of the toes to the end of the *tibia* (what appears to be the bend of the leg or knee; but which is, in reality, the heel joint).

SUPERCILIARY STRIPE. — Stripe over the eye.



KEY

TO THE

WATER BIRDS OF FLORIDA.

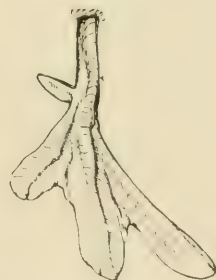
FAMILY PODICIPIDÆ. GREBES.



Colymbus auritus.



Podilymbus podiceps.



Podilymbus podiceps.

Length, 13.40; Wing, **5.40**; Tarsus, **1.70**; Bill, .90.

Colymbus auritus.

Horned Grebe.

See page 53

Length, 13.50; Wing, **5**; Tarsus, **1.45**; Bill, .90.

Podilymbus podiceps.

Pied-billed Grebe.

See page 54

FAMILY URINATORIDÆ. LOONS — DIVERS.



Urinator imber.



Urinator imber (foot).



Urinator lumme.

Length, **31**; Wing, **14**; Tarsus, 3.35; Bill, 2.75.

Urinator imber.

Loon — Great Northern Diver.

See page 55

Length, **24**; Wing, **10.75**; Tarsus, 2.75; Bill, 2.

Urinator lumme.

Red-throated Loon.

Red-throated Diver.

See page 56

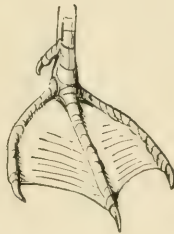
FAMILY STERCORARIIDÆ. JÆGERS.



Stercorarius parasiticus (adult).



Stercorarius parasiticus (immature).



Stercorarius parasiticus (foot).

Central tail feathers elongated in the two following species :

Length, 17; Wing, 13; Tail (adult), about **8.40**; Tail (immature), about 6; Bill, 1.20.

***Stercorarius parasiticus*.**

Parasitic Jaeger. See page 57

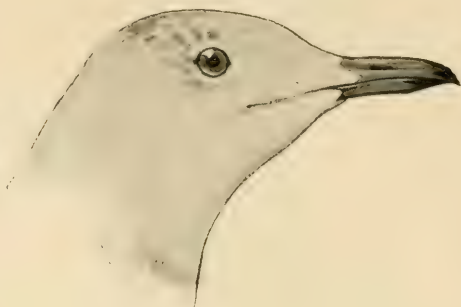
Length, 20.50; Wing, 12.25; Tail (adult), about **12.50**; immature, about 6; Bill, 1.10.

***Stercorarius longicaudus*.**

Long-tailed Jaeger. See page 58

FAMILY LARIDÆ. GULLS AND TERNS.

SUBFAMILY LARINÆ. GULLS.

*Larus argentatus smithsonianus.**Larus atricilla.*

Length, **29**; Wing, 18; Tail, 8; Bill, **2.40**.

Length, **24**; Wing, 17.50; Tail, 7.50; Bill, **2.10**.

Length, **18.40**; Wing, **14**; Tail, 6; Bill, about 1.65.

In summer, **bill yellowish banded with black**;
in winter, tipped with dark brown.

Length, **16.50**; Wing, 12.50; Tail, 5; Bill, about 1.75.

Adult—head and throat plumbeous in summer,
whitish in winter; **bill reddish**.

Length, **13.50**; Wing, **10.40**; Tail, 4.15; Bill,
1.30. Adult in summer,—**bill black**; head and
neck plumbeous; feet orange red; in winter, bill
black; head and neck white; feet flesh color.

Larus marinus.

Great Black-backed Gull.

See page 59

Larus argentatus smithsonianus.

American Herring Gull.

See page 60

Larus delawarensis.

Ring-billed Gull.

See page 60

Larus atricilla.

Laughing Gull.

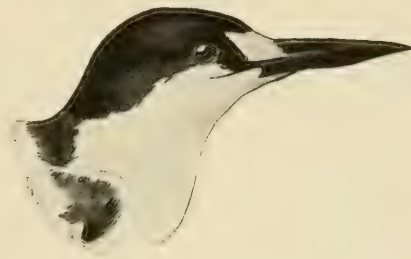
See page 61

Larus philadelphia.

Bonaparte's Gull.

See page 61

SUBFAMILY STERNINÆ. TERNS.

*Sterna maxima.**Sterna fuliginosa.*

Length, **21**; Wing, **16**; Tail, 6.10; Tarsus, 1.80; Bill, 3. **Bill deep red**; primaries dark slate color on inner webs.

Length, **19**; Wing, **14**; Tail, 7.10; Bill, 2.40. **Bill orange or yellow**; back pearl gray; under parts white.

Length, **17**; Wing, 11.50; Tail, 7.20; Bill, 1.70. **Bill black**; back and upper parts brownish black; under parts white.

Length, **15.50**; Wing, 10.50; Tail, 5.60; Bill, 2.10. **Bill black tipped with yellow**; back pearl gray; under parts white.

Length, **15**; Wing, 10.30; Tail, 5.50; Bill, 1.45; Tarsus, .70 to .80. Adult in summer — **Bill red tipped with black**; **feet red**; under parts ashy. Adult in winter — under parts white; bill brownish black; **Outer web of outer tail feather darker than inner web at all seasons.**

Sterna tschegrava.

Caspian Tern.

See page 62

Sterna maxima.

Royal Tern.

See page 63

Sterna fuliginosa.

Sooty Tern.

See page 66

Sterna sandvicensis acuflavida.

Cabot's Tern.

See page 63

Sterna hirundo.

Common Tern.

See page 64

*Sterna dougalli.*

Length, **15**; Wing, 10.25; Tail, 6.60; Bill, 1.50; Tarsus, .90. Adult in summer — bill dull orange red tipped with black; feet orange red; **under parts white**. Adult in winter — bill dark brown; feet brown; a **dusky black patch on sides of the head** inclosing eye; **inner web of outer tail feather darker than outer web in all plumages**.

Sterna forsteri.

Forster's Tern.

See page 64

Length, 15; Wing, 7.75; Tail, 7.50; Bill, 1.55; Tarsus, .85. Bill black, showing tinge of red at the base; tail white; **whole of outer tail feather white**; **under parts white** tinged with rose color; feet red.

Sterna dougalli.

Roseate Tern.

See page 65

Length, **15**; Wing, 10.30; Tail, 6; Bill, 1.60. **Entire plumage olive brown**; top of head whitish. Immature birds have the top of the head brownish.

Anous stolidus.

Noddy Tern.

See page 67

Length, **14.50**; Wing, **10**; Tail, 6; Bill, 1.60. Crown black; **forehead and line extending over the eye white**; mantle gray; under parts white; bill and feet black.

Sterna anæthetus.

Bridled Tern.

See page 66

Length, **14**; Wing, **12**; Tail, 5.50; Bill, 1.40; Tarsus, 1.30. **Forehead not white**; crown, including forehead, black; upper parts pearl gray; under parts white; **bill comparatively short and thick**; bill and feet black.

Gelochelidon nilotica.

Gull-billed Tern. See page 62

Length, **9.50**; Wing, 8.30; Tail, 3.60; Bill, 1.10; Tarsus, .70. Adult in summer — under parts black. Adult in winter — under parts white; **bill black**; **feet dusky brown**.

Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis.

Black Tern. See page 67

Length, **9.25**; Wing, **7**; Tail, 3.50; Bill, 1.20; Tarsus, .65. Under parts white; **bill and feet yellow**.

Sterna antillarum.

Least Tern. See page 65

FAMILY RHYNCHOPIDÆ. SKIMMERS.



Rhynchops nigra.

Length, **18 to 20**; Wing, 15; Tail, 5.50; Bill (culmen), 2.70; Gonys, 4.25. **Bill thin, knife-like**, lower mandible the longer, basal half of bill vermillion red, blackish at tip. General plumage black, white beneath.

Rhynchops nigra.

Black Skimmer. See page 68

FAMILY DIOMEDEIDÆ. ALBATROSSES.

*Diomedea exulans.* (Very much reduced.)

Length, about **4 feet**; extent of wings (spread), about 10 feet to 12 feet. General color yellowish white.

Diomedea exulans.

Wandering Albatross.

See page 69

FAMILY PROCELLARIIDÆ. FULMARS, SHEARWATERS, AND PETRELS.

*Puffinus major.**Puffinus auduboni.**Puffinus major.*

Length, **19.25**; Wing, **12.50**; Tail, 5.75; Bill, 2.40; Tarsus, 2. Dark brown above, white beneath; crissum dark; **under tail coverts gray.**

Puffinus major.

Greater Shearwater.

See page 69

Length, **11.50**; Wing, **8**; Bill, 1.20; Tarsus, 1.55.
Above brown; under parts white; crissum brown and white.

*Æstrelata hasitata.***Puffinus auduboni.****Audubon's Shearwater.**

See page 70

*Oceanites oceanicus.*

Length, **16.50**; Wing, **12**; Bill, 1.35; Tarsus, 1.40.
Upper and under **tail coverts white.**

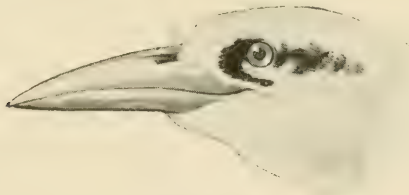
Length, **7**; Wing, **5.75**; Tail, 2.80; Tarsus, 1.30;
Bill, .50. General plumage sooty black; white on
tail coverts.

Length, **8**; Wing, **6.25**; Tail, 3.10 (above dusky);
Tarsus, 1.50. No white on nape; under parts
white.

Æstrelata hasitata.**Black-capped Petrel.** See page 70**Oceanites oceanicus.****Wilson's Petrel.** See page 71**Cymodroma grallaria.****White-bellied Petrel.**

See page 71

FAMILY PHAËTHONTIDÆ. TROPIC BIRDS.

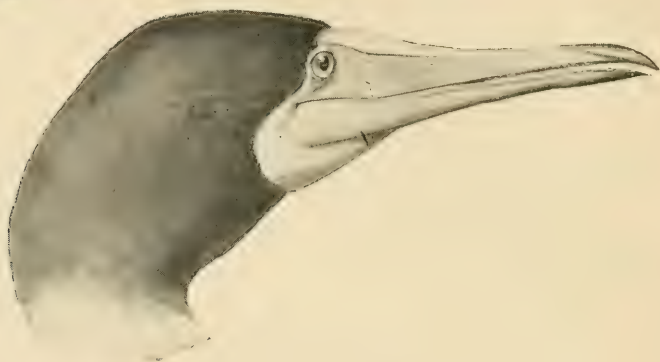
*Phaëthon flavirostris.*

Length, including tail, **31.50**; Wing, 11; Tail, **21**;
Bill, 2. General color white; bill yellow; central
tail feather very long.

Phaëthon flavirostris.**Yellow-billed Tropic Bird.**

See page 72

FAMILY SULIDÆ. GANNETS.

*Sula bassana.**Sula sula.*

Length, **36**; Wing, **18.50**; Tail, 9; Bill, 4.10.
Immature plumage mottled grayish brown and white; head and neck white tinged with buff.

Sula bassana.
Gannet.

See page 74

Length, **27**; Wing, **15.50**; Tail, 8; Bill, 4; Tarsus, 1.60. Head and upper parts sooty brown; **bill** and **feet pale yellow**; gular sack yellow.

Sula sula.

Common Booby.

See page 73

Length, **27**; Wing, **16**; Tail, 7.70; Bill, 4; Tarsus, 1.85. Head, white; **head whitish**; **gular sac bluish**; **feet reddish**.

Sula cyanops.

Blue-faced Booby.

See page 73

Length, **27**; Wing, 15; Tail, 8; Tarsus, 2.10; Bill, 3.50. Head white tinged with buff; **feet coral red**; gular sac dusky.

Sula piscator.

Red-footed Booby.

See page 74

FAMILY ANHINGIDÆ. DARTERS.



Anhinga anhinga.

Length, **33.50**; Wing, **13.50**; Tail, **10**. **Long, snake-like neck**; head and neck black in male, brown in female.

Anhinga anhinga.

Anhinga, Snake Bird, Water Turkey.

See page 75

FAMILY PHALACROCORACIDÆ. CORMORANTS.



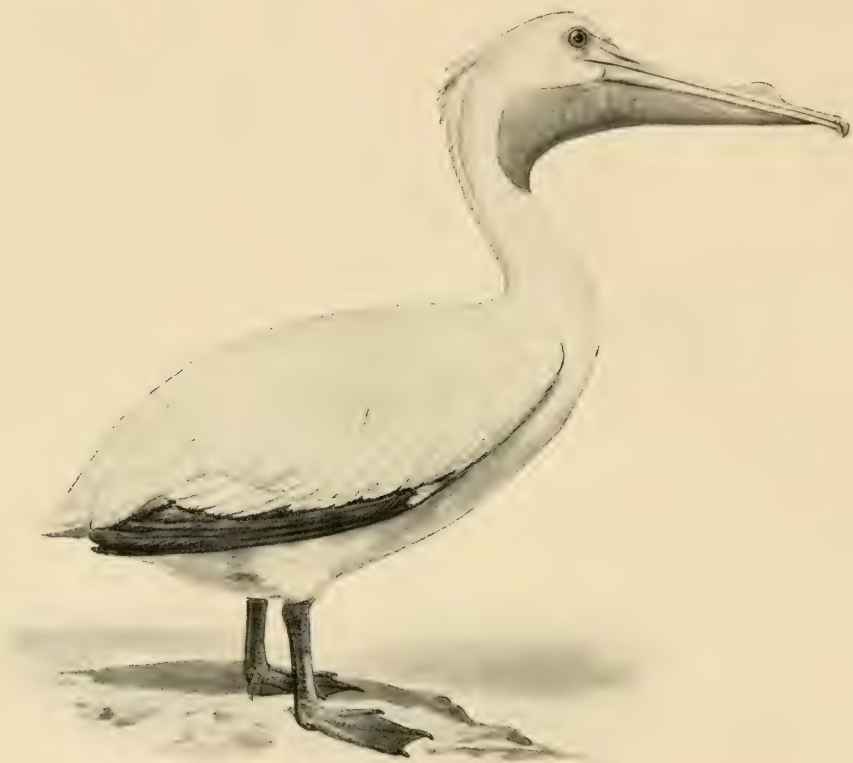
Phalacrocorax dilophus floridanus.

Length, **36**; Wing, **12**; Tail, **5.75**; Bill, **2.20**. **Tail consists of 12 feathers.**

Phalacrocorax dilophus floridanus.

Florida Cormorant. See page 76

FAMILY PELECANIDÆ. PELICANS.

*Pelecanus erythrorhynchus.*

Length, **60**; Wing, **24.50**; Tarsus, 4.45; Bill, 12.
General **plumage white**; tail feathers, 24; pouch
yellow.

Pelecanus erythrorhynchus
American White Pelican.

See page 77

Length, **50**; Wing, **20**; Tarsus, 2.90; Bill, 11.
Plumage **not white**.

***Pelecanus fuscus*.**
Brown Pelican.

See page 78

FAMILY FREGATIDÆ. MAN-O'-WAR BIRDS.



Fregata aquila.

Length, **42**; Wing, **26**; Tail, 16.50; Bill, 5. *Upper*
plumage black, tail forked, wings long.

Fregata aquila.

Man-o'-War Bird. See page 79

FAMILY ANATIDÆ. DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS.

SUBFAMILY MERGINÆ. MERGANSERS, TOOTH-BILLED DUCKS.

*Merganser americana.*

(1) Head greenish or blackish; bill narrow, with tooth-like serrations.

Length, **26.50**; Wing, **11**; Tarsus, 2; Bill, 2.10. Under parts creamy white tinged with salmon color.

Merganser americana.

American Merganser (male).

Sheldrake.

See page 80

Length, **23**; Wing, **9**; Tarsus, 1.90; Bill, 2.30. Breast brown streaked with black.

***Merganser serrator* (male).**

Red-breasted Merganser.

Sheldrake.

See page 81

Head brownish or grayish; bill narrow, with tooth-like serrations.

Length, **24.50**; Wing, **9.75**; Tarsus, 1.90; Bill, 2.
Distance from nostril to tip of bill **less than 1.50.**

***Merganser americana* (female).**

American Merganser.

See page 80

*Lophodytes cucullatus.*

Length, **21**; Wing, **8.80**; Tarsus, 1.90; Bill, 2.50.

Distance from nostril to tip of bill **more than 1.50.**

Length, **18.50**; Wing, **7.70**; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.50. Without crest.

Length, **18.50**; Wing, **7.75**; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 1.50. With small crest.

Merganser serrator (female).

Red-breasted Merganser.

See page 81

Lophodytes cucullatus.

Hooded Merganser (immature).

See page 82

Lophodytes cucullatus.

Hooded Merganser (female).

See page 82

(2) Head with black and white crest; bill narrow with tooth-like serrations.

Length, **19.50**; Wing, **7.75**; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 1.50.

Lophodytes cucullatus.

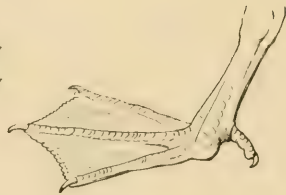
(adult male).

Hooded Merganser. See page 82

SUBFAMILY ANATINÆ. RIVER DUCKS.

*Dafila acuta.**Anas americana.*

(1) Hind toe without membranous lobe or flap. Belly white, sometimes faintly tinged with blackish or gray on lower part. Length over 17.50; wing over 8.50.



Length, **28**; Wing, 9.50; Tail, 7; Bill, 2. Head **brown**; speculum green, edged with black and white; middle tail feathers elongated.

Length, **22**; Wing, 9.25; Tail, 3.50; Bill, 2. Head **brown**; speculum brown and white; under wing coverts dark.

Length, **23**; Wing, 10.50; Bill, 2.20. Head **greenish**; speculum purplish, bordered with white and black; feet red.

Dafila acuta (male).

Pintail.

See page 91

Dafila acuta (female).

Pintail.

See page 92

Anas boschas (male).

Mallard Duck.

See page 83

Length, 19.50; Wing, 10; Bill, 1.60. Head brownish, streaked; speculum white and brown; feet yellowish; **under wing coverts black.**

Anas strepera (male).

Gadwall. See page 86

Length, 19; Wing, 10; Bill, 1.55. Head brownish streaked; speculum white and gray; **under wing coverts white.**

Anas strepera (female).

Gadwall. See page 86

Length, 19; Wing, 10.50; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.40. Head white and green, streaked and speckled with black; speculum black and green; feet bluish.

Anas americana.

Baldpate Widgeon. See page 87

Length, 18.50; Wing, 9.50; Bill, 1.40. Head green and purple, showing white stripe; speculum blue, tipped with black and white; **feet yellow.**

Aix sponsa (male).

Summer Duck.

Wood Duck. See page 93

Length, 18; Wing, 9.30; Bill, 1.35. Head gray, showing white stripe; **feet yellow.**

Aix sponsa (female).

Summer Duck.

Wood Duck. See page 93

(2) Hind toe without membranous lobe or flap.

Belly not white.

Length over 17.50; wing over 8.50.

Length, 22; Wing, 11.50; Bill, 2.10; Tarsus, 1.65. Head brownish and buff; belly buff brown, mottled; feet red; **speculum purple, bordered with white and black.**

Anas boschas (female).

Mallard. See page 83

Length, 21; Wing, 10.75; Bill, 2.10; Tarsus, 1.75. Head and neck brown streaked; no black spot at base of bill; **speculum purple, edged with black; throat streaked.**

Anas obscura.

Black Duck.

Dusky Duck. See page 84

Length, 20; Wing, 10.20; Bill, 2; Tarsus, 1.70. Similar to *A. obscura*, but paler; cheeks and **throat not streaked**; bill yellowish olive; nail of bill and spot at base black; *speculum purple, edged with black.*

Anas fulvigula.

Florida Black Duck. See page 85

*Anas obscura.**Spatula clypeata* (male).

Length, **20**; Wing, 9.50; Bill, 2.70; Tarsus, 1.50.

Bill very much broadened; head dark bluish green; feet orange red; speculum green, tipped with white.

***Spatula clypeata* (male).**

Shoveller, Broad=bill.

See page 90

Length, **19.50**; Wing, 9.50; Bill, 2.60; Tarsus, 1.50.

Head brown; general plumage mottled and streaked brown and buff; bill very broad; feet orange red; speculum green, tipped with white.

***Spatula clypeata* (female).**

Shoveller.

See page 91

Hind toe without membranous lobe or flap.

Length under 17.50; wing under 8.50.

Length, **16**; Wing, 7.25; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.60. A

patch on the wing pale blue; **head and neck not chestnut; speculum green.**

Anas discors.

Blue-winged Teal. See page 89

*Anas discors* (male).*Anas carolinensis* (male).

Length, **14.50**; Wing, 7.20; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.50.
No blue patch on wing; **speculum black**, tipped with white.

Length, **16**; Wing, 7.50; Bill, 1.75; Tarsus, 1.30. **Head and neck chestnut**; a patch of blue on wing; **speculum green**.

***Anas carolinensis*.**

Green-winged Teal. See page 88

***Anas cyanoptera*.**

Cinnamon Teal. See page 89

SUBFAMILY FULIGINÆ. SEA DUCKS.

(1) Hind toe with well-defined membranous lobe or flap.

Belly white, sometimes grayish or blackish on lower part; no white on head.

Length, **21.50**; Wing, 9; Tarsus, 1.50; Bill, 2.30. **Head reddish brown**, chin and crown dusky; speculum gray; upper feathers edged with black. *Resembles Redhead Duck, but bill very different.* (See figure.)

*Aythya americana*.

***Aythya vallisneria*.**

Canvas-back Duck. See page 95

*Aythya vallisneria*.*Aythya affinis*.

Length, 21; Wing, 8.40; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 2.20.

Head rufous brown; speculum grayish; upper feathers edged with black; the rest narrowly tipped with white. (See figure showing difference in bill from Canvas-back.)

Length, 20.50; Wing, 8.30; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 2.20.

Head grayish brown; speculum grayish; upper feathers edged with black; the rest narrowly tipped with white. Closely resembles female of Ring-neck Duck (*A. collaris*), but is larger.

Length, 19; Wing, 8.50; Tarsus, 1.50; Bill, 2. **Head black** glossed with green; back grayish; **speculum white**.

Length, 17; Wing, 8.10; Tarsus, 1.50; Bill, 1.80.

Similar to the preceding species, from which it differs only in being somewhat smaller; head black with purplish gloss; **speculum white**.

***Aythya americana* (male).**

Redhead Duck. See page 94

***Aythya americana* (female).**

Redhead Duck. See page 94

***Aythya marila nearctica* (male).**

Greater Scaup Duck.
Bluebill. See page 96

***Aythya affinis* (male).**

Lesser Scaup Duck.
Bluebill. See page 97

Length, 17; Wing, 7.50; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 1.75.

Head black with violet gloss; **speculum gray**.

Aythya collaris (male).

Ring-neck Duck. See page 97

Length, 16.50; Wing, 8.25; Tarsus, 1.40; Bill, 1.60.

Head brown; speculum white.

Glaucionetta clangula americana (female).

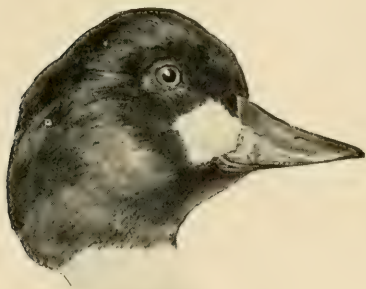
American Golden Eye.

Whistler. See page 99

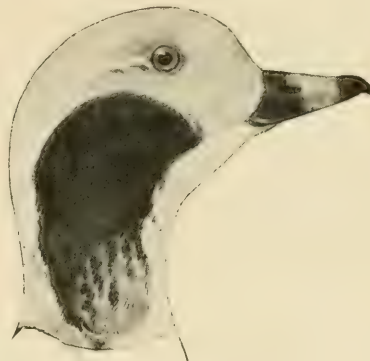
Hind toe with well-defined membranous lobe or flap.

Belly white, sometimes grayish or blackish on lower part.

Head showing more or less white or grayish white.



Glaucionetta clangula americana.



Clangula hyemalis.

Length, including lengthened tail, 21; Wing, 8.50; Bill,

1. **Tail pointed**; central feathers longest; under tail coverts white.

Clangula hyemalis.

Old Squaw. See page 100

Length, 17.75; Wing, 8.25; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 1.60.

Head brownish showing white at base of bill;
speculum white.

Aythya marila nearctica (female).

Greater Scaup Duck.

Blue-bill. See page 96

Length, 16.50; Wing, 7.70; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.50.

Similar to preceding, but somewhat smaller.

Aythya affinis (female).

Lesser Scaup Duck.

Blue-bill. See page 97

Length, **19.50**; Wing, 9.50; Tarsus, 1.75; Bill, 1.50.

Head brownish, showing a slight trace of whitish on the sides; under surface of body grayish; whitish on the belly; **feathers on top of the bill less than one half inch from nostril; no white on wing.**

Oidemia perspicillata (female).

Surf Scoter.

Skunk-head Coot. See page 103

Length, **16.40**; Wing, 7.35; Tarsus, 1.20; Bill, 1.75.

Head and neck grayish brown; chin and anterior portion of lores whitish; **speculum gray.** Resembles female of *Aythya americana* but is smaller.

Aythya collaris (female).

Ring-necked Duck. See page 97

Length, **20.50**; Wing, 8.30; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 2.10.

Head and neck grayish brown; becoming whitish on chin; **speculum gray**; resembles female *Aythya collaris*, but is larger.

Aythya americana (female).

Red-head Duck. See page 99

Length, **19.50**; Wing, 9.10; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.90.

Head green; white patch at base of bill; speculum white.

Glaucionetta clangula americana (male).

American Golden Eye.

Whistler. See page 99

Length, **12.75**; Wing, 6; Tarsus, 1.20; Bill, 1. **Head purple, green, and white**; back black; speculum white. **A very small duck.**

Charitonetta albeola (male).

Buffle-headed Duck.

Buffle-head. See page 99

Length, **12.50**; Wing, 5.75; Tarsus, 1.20; Bill, 1.

White patch on side of the head; back brownish; speculum white. **A very small duck.**

Charitonetta albeola (female).

Buffle-headed Duck.

Buffle-head. See page 99

Length, **15.25**; Wing, 6; Bill, 1.50; Tarsus, 1.20.

General color chestnut brown or grayish brown (according to sex), silvery white beneath; patch of white on side of the head; **tail feathers stiff and pointed.**

Erismatura rubida.

Ruddy Duck. See page 101

Hind toe with well-defined membranous lobe.**Belly not white.**

Length, 21; Wing, 11; Tarsus, 2.05; Bill, 1.50. General plumage **black; speculum white; spot under eye white**; bill orange at base; **feathers on the bill less than one half inch from nostril.**

Length, 20.50; Wing, 11; Tarsus, 2; Bill, 1.50. General plumage grayish; **speculum white; feathers on the bill less than one half inch from nostril.**

Length, 18; Wing, 9.25; Bill, 1.75; Tarsus, 1.85. General plumage black; **no white on the wing**; bill orange at base; **feathers on the bill more than one half inch from nostril.**

Length, 17.50; Wing, 9; Bill, 1.70; Tarsus, 1.80. General plumage brownish; **no white on wing**; bill black; **feathers on the bill more than one half inch from nostril.**

Length, 20; Wing, 9.50; Tarsus, 1.75; Bill, 1.50. General plumage black; feathers on top of bill extending farther forward than on side of bill; patch of white on bill; orange, black, and white front of head and nape; **no white on wings; feathers on the bill less than one half inch from nostril.**

Length, 19.50; Wing, 9.50; Tarsus, 1.75; Bill, 1.50. Head brownish, showing a slight trace of whitish on the sides; under surface of body grayish; palest on the belly. Feathers extended on upper part of bill more than on sides; **no white on wings; feathers on the bill less than one half inch from nostril.**

Oidemia deglandi (adult male).**White-winged Scoter.****White-winged Coot.**

See page 102

Oidemia deglandi (male in winter and female).**White-winged Scoter.****White-winged Coot.**

See page 102

Oidemia americana (adult male)**American Scoter.****Butter-bill, Coot.**

See page 101

Oidemia americana (female and immature).**American Scoter.****Butter-bill, Coot.**

See page 101

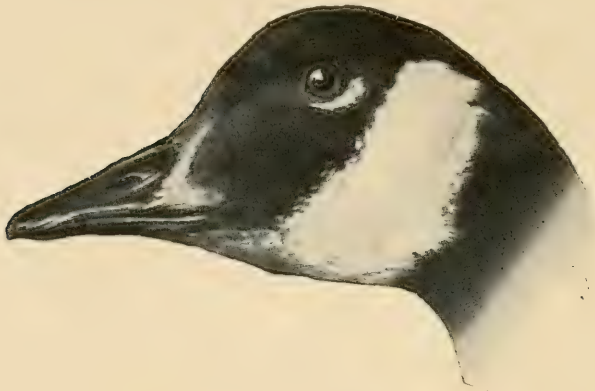
Oidemia perspicillata (adult male).**Surf Scoter.****Skunk-head Coot.**

See page 103

Oidemia perspicillata (female).**Surf Scoter.****Skunk-head Coot.**

See page 103

SUBFAMILY ANSERINÆ. GESE.

*Branta canadensis.*

Length, **40**; Wing, 19; Bill, 2.50; Tarsus, 3.20. Band of white on sides of the head and throat; bill black; rest of head black.

Branta canadensis.

Canada Goose.

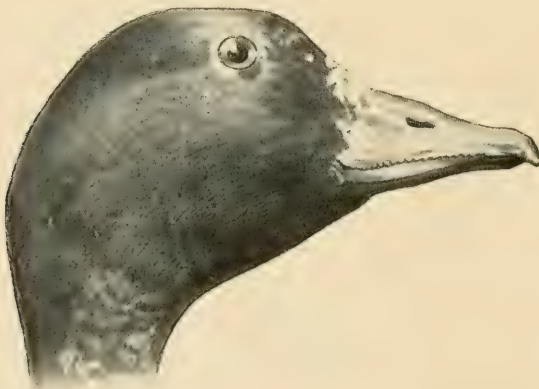
See page 107

Length, **34**; Wing, 17.40; Bill, 2.50; Tarsus, 3.10. Entire plumage white; primaries black.

Chen hyperborea nivalis.

Greater Snow Goose.

See page 105

*Anser albifrons gambeli.*

Length, **28**; Wing, 16; Bill, 2.20; Tarsus, 3.10. **Head white**; rest of plumage grayish.

Chen caerulescens.

Blue Goose.

See page 105

Length, **28**; Wing, 16; Bill, 2; Tarsus, 2.90. **Head brownish**; bill yellowish; nail black. A line of white at base of bill (adult).

Anser albifrons gambeli.

American White-fronted Goose.

See page 106

Length, **26**; Wing, 13.50; Bill, 1.40; Tarsus, 2.40. **Head entirely black**; bill black.

Branta bernicla.

Brant.

See page 108

SUBFAMILY CYGNINÆ. SWANS.



Olor columbianus.

Length, **53**; Wing, 21.50; Bill, 4; Tarsus, 4.20.

Distance from front of the eye to nostril longer than from nostril to tip of bill. A spot of yellow on the lores in the adult; young birds gray. **Entire plumage white.**

Olor columbianus.

Whistling Swan.

See page 108

FAMILY PHŒNICOPTERIDÆ. FLAMINGOES.



Phœnicopterus ruber.

Length, **47**; Wing, 16.50; Tarsus, 12; Bill, 5.75.
Plumage **vermillion red**; bill pale yellow, tipped
with black.

Phœnicopterus ruber.

Flamingo.

See page 109

FAMILY PLATALEIDÆ. SPOONBILLS.



Ajaja ajaja.

Length, **31**; Wing, 15; Tarsus, 4.10; Bill, 6.30. Bill
flat, widened at tip; **plumage pink and white.**

Ajaja ajaja.

Roseate Spoonbill. See page 110

FAMILY IBIDIDÆ. IBISES.



Plegadis autumnalis.

Length, 25; Wing, 11.25; Bill, 5.40. **Plumage chestnut brown; no white at base of bill.**

Plegadis autumnalis.

Glossy Ibis. See page 113

Length, 25; Wing, 11; Bill, 5.50. **Plumage chestnut brown;—a line of white at base of bill.**

Plegadis guarauna.

White-faced Ibis. See page 114

Length, 26; Wing, 11.25; Bill, 6.30. **Plumage white; primaries tipped with black.**

Guara alba.

White Ibis (adult). See page 111

Length, 26; Wing, 11; Bill, 6.20. **Plumage mixed gray and brown; belly white; rump white.**

Guara alba.

White Ibis (immature).

See page 111

Length, 27; Wing, 10.50; Bill, 6.20. **Plumage brownish mottled; belly white; rump brownish.**

Guara rubra.

Scarlet Ibis (immature).

See page 112

*Guara alba* (adult).

Length, 28; Wing, 11; Bill, 6.50. **Plumage scarlet;**
legs and feet red.

Guara rubra.
Scarlet Ibis (adult).

See page 112

FAMILY CICONIIDÆ. STORKS.

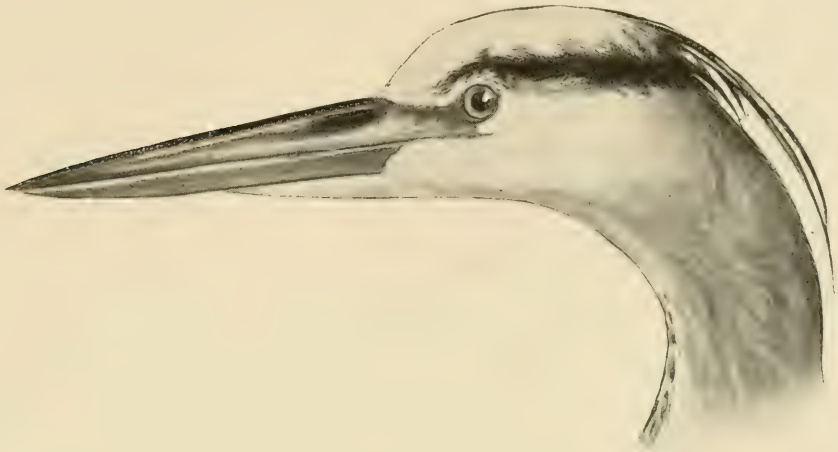
*Tantalus loculator.*

Length, 41; Wing, 18.50; Tarsus, 8.20; Bill, 9.20.
Plumage white; head and neck without feathers
in adult.

Tantalus loculator.
Wood Ibis.

See page 114

FAMILY ARDEIDÆ. HERONS AND BITTERNS.



Ardea herodias.

Plumage nearly or entirely white.

Length, 50; Wing, 18.50; Tarsus, 8.50; Bill, 6.40.

Plumage white; bill yellow; legs greenish yellow.

Ardea occidentalis.

Great White Heron. See page 117



Ardea rufescens.

Length, **40**; Wing, **15.25**; Tarsus, 5.50; Bill, 4.60.

Plumage white; bill yellow; **legs and feet black**.

Ardea egretta.

American Egret. See page 119

Length, **28.50**; Wing, 12.25; Tarsus, 5.25; Bill, 3.50.

Plumage white; legs dark olive; **terminal half of bill black**; **basal half flesh color**.

Ardea rufescens.

Reddish Egret (white phase).

See page 122

Length, **23.50**; Wing, **9.50**; Tarsus, 3.75; Bill, 3.25.

Plumage entirely white; bill black, showing yellow at base; **legs black**; feet yellow.

Ardea candidissima.

Snowy Heron.

Little White Egret. See page 120

Length, 22.50; Wing, 10; Tarsus, 3.50; Bill, 3.10.

Plumage white; **tips of primaries washed with grayish blue**; legs and feet greenish yellow.

Ardea cœrulea (immature).

Little Blue Heron. See page 124

Plumage not white.

Length, **50**; Wing, 20; Tarsus, 8; Bill, 6.50. **General**

color slaty or grayish variously marked with white, black, and brownish; *bill yellowish*.

Ardea wardi.

Ward's Heron.

See page 118

Length, **46**; Wing, 18.50; Tarsus, 7; Bill, 5. **Similar**

to Ward's, but somewhat smaller; *bill dark*.

Ardea herodias.

Great Blue Heron. See page 118

Length, **29**; Wing, 12; Tarsus, 5.40; Bill, 3.80. **Head**

and neck rufous chestnut; rest of plumage slate color; legs bluish; terminal half of bill black; basal half flesh color.

Ardea rufescens.

Reddish Egret (dark phase of plumage).

See page 121

Length, **27.50**; Wing, 10.50; Tarsus, 3.60; Bill, 3.10.
Plumage tawny brown, streaked with dark brown.

***Botaurus lentiginosus*.**

American Bittern. See page 115

Length, **26**; Wing, 10; Tarsus, 3.50; Bill, 3.80. Elongated feathers on crown chestnut and white; **throat white with brown stripe down the middle.**

***Ardea tricolor ruficollis*.**

Louisiana Heron. See page 122

Length, **24**; Wing, 12; Tarsus, 3.60; Bill, 3. Bill thick — black; **crown of head white and buff.** Immature birds are mottled brown having outer web of primaries slate color, not rufous brown.

***Nycticorax violaceus*.**

Yellow-crowned Night Heron.

See page 127

Length, **24**; Wing, 12; Tarsus, 3.40; Bill, 3. Bill thick — black; **crown greenish black.** Immature birds are mottled brown, having the outer web of primaries pale rufous brown.

***Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*.**

Night Heron.

See page 126

Length, **22.50**; Wing, 10; Tarsus, 3.60; Bill, 3. Head and neck purplish brown; rest of **plumage slaty blue**; legs and feet black.

***Ardea cœrulea*.**

Little Blue Heron (adult).

See page 124

Length, **22**; Wing, 10; Tarsus, 3.60; Bill, 3. Plumage **partly grayish blue, partly white.**

***Ardea cœrulea*.**

Little Blue Heron (immature).

See page 124

Length, **17**; Wing, 7; Tarsus, 1.80; Bill, 2.50. **Crown dark greenish**; neck chestnut with a line of buffy white down the middle of throat; legs greenish yellow; belly pale.

***Ardea virescens*.**

Green Heron.

See page 125

Length, **13.25**; Wing, 4.50; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.80.
 Very small; **throat pale yellow buff**; under
 parts pale.

Ardetta exilis.

Least Bittern.

See page 116

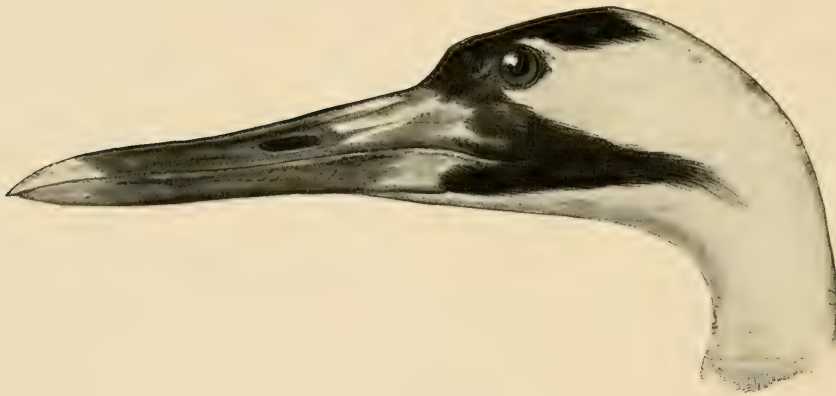
Length, **13**; Wing, 4.30; Tarsus, 1.40; Bill, 1.80.
Throat and under parts deep chestnut.

Ardetta neoxena.

Cory's Least Bittern.

See page 117

FAMILY GRUIDÆ. CRANES.



Grus americana.

Length, **51**; Wing, 25.50; Tarsus, 12; Bill, 5.10.
Plumage white; bare skin of head red. (Young
 birds have the head feathered.)

Grus americana.

Whooping Crane.

See page 128

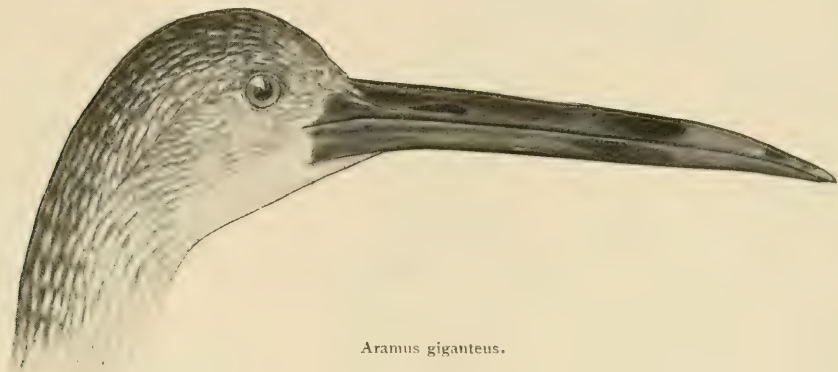
Length, **45**; Wing, 21.50; Tarsus, 10; Bill, 5.50.
Plumage gray or brownish gray; bare skin of
 head red. (Young birds have the head feathered.)

Grus mexicana.

Sandhill Crane.

See page 130

FAMILY ARAMIDÆ. COURLANS, "LIMPKINS."



Aramus giganteus.

Length, **27.50**; Wing, 12.50; Tarsus, 4.30; Bill, 4.10.

Plumage brown, striped with white; under mandible slightly twisted near tip.

Aramus giganteus.
Limpkin, Crying-bird.

See page 131

FAMILY RALLIDÆ. RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS.

SUBFAMILY RALLINÆ. RAILS.



Length, **16.50**; Wing, 6.20; Tarsus, 2.30;
Bill, 2.30. Upper parts brownish olive,
streaked with black; **breast cinnamon**
brown; **wing coverts rufous**; cheek
rufous brown.

Length, **15**; Wing, 6; Tarsus, 2; Bill,
2.30. Upper parts grayish olive streaked
with black; **breast pale buff**; cheeks
grayish.

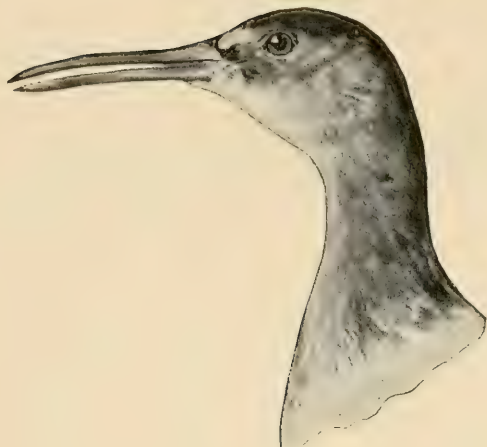
Rallus elegans.
King Rail.

See page 132

Rallus longirostris crepitans.
Clapper Rail.

See page 133

Rallus longirostris crepitans.

*Rallus elegans.**Porzana carolina.*

Length, **14.50**; Wing, 5.75; Tarsus, 1.90; Bill, 2.10.

Upper parts dark olive brown; **wing coverts not rufous brown.**

Length, **8.75**; Wing, 4.20; Tarsus, 1.30; *Bill*, 1.50.

Upper parts dark; throat white; **belly brown.**

Length, **8.40**; Wing, 4.20; Tarsus, 1.25; *Bill*, 75 to 90.

Upper parts dark; throat gray; a stripe on top of head and at base of bill black; **lower belly white.**

Length, **7.20**; Wing, 3.50; Tarsus, 1; *Bill*, 55.

Feathers of back **banded with narrow white lines** and edged with pale brown; upper belly white.

Length, 5.50; Wing, 3; Tarsus, .90; Bill, .60. Head,

neck, and upper belly **slaty gray**; lower belly plumbeous or blackish.

Rallus longirostris scottii.

Scott's Rail.

See page 134

Rallus virginianus.

Virginia Rail.

See page 133

Porzana carolina.

Carolina Rail.

Sora.

See page 134

Porzana noveboracensis.

Yellow Rail.

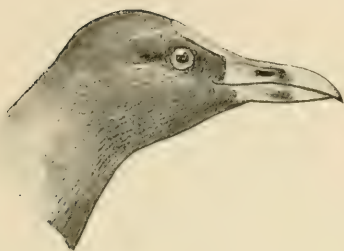
See page 135

Porzana jamaicensis.

Little Black Rail.

See page 135

SUBFAMILY GALLINULINÆ. GALLINULES.

*Ionornis martinica.*

Length, 11; Wing, 7; Bill, 1.80; Tarsus, 2.40. **General color purplish blue; toes without lobate webs; legs and feet yellow.**

*Ionornis martinica.****Ionornis martinica.***

Purple Gallinule. See page 136

Length, 12; Wing, 7.10; Bill, 1.80; Tarsus, 2.25. General color **olive brown** and gray; frontal shield and most of bill red; toes **without lobate webs**; legs and feet greenish, showing scarlet on upper portion of tibia.

Gallinula galeata.

Florida Gallinule. See page 136

SUBFAMILY FULICINÆ.

*Fulica americana.*

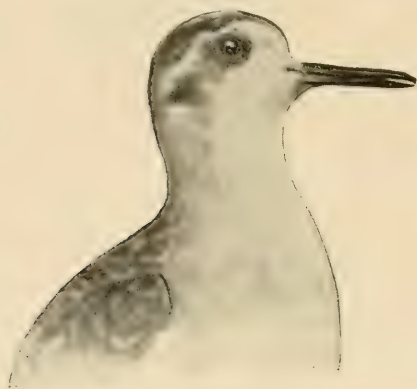
Length, 15.50; Wing, 7.40; Tarsus, 2.20. **Toes with lobate webs; legs greenish; basal portion of bill and frontal shield white; general plumage slate color; head blackish.**

*Fulica americana.****Fulica americana.***

American Coot, Mud-hen.

See page 137

FAMILY PHALAROPODIDÆ. PHALAROPES.

*Crymophilus fulvicaudus*.*Crymophilus fulvicaudus* (foot).

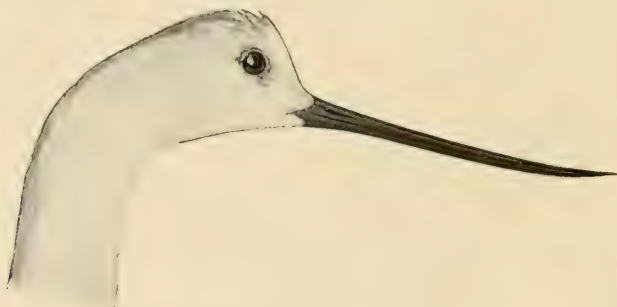
Length, **7.50**; Wing, 4.40; Bill, .90; Tarsus, .85.

Upper parts gray; neck marked with rufous; under parts white.

Phalaropus lobatus.

Northern Phalarope. See page 138

FAMILY RECURVIROSTRIDÆ. AVOCETS AND STILTS.

*Recurvirostra americana*.

Length, **17.50**; Wing, 8.75; Tarsus, 3.70; Bill, 3.60.

Bill curved upwards—very slender; middle back, rump and belly white; legs bluish; head and neck rufous in summer, gray in winter.

Recurvirostra americana.

American Avocet. See page 139

Length, **15**; Wing, 8.75; Tarsus, 3.90; Bill, 2.60.

Forehead, bill straight; a spot behind the eye, and under parts white; rest of **head, back, and wings black**; legs pink red.

Himantopus mexicanus.

Black-necked Stilt. See page 140

FAMILY SCOLOPACIDÆ. SNIPES, SANDPIPERS, CURLEWS.



Philohela minor.

Length under 13; wing under 7; bill over 2; toes four in number.

Length, **11**; Wing, 5.50; Bill, 2.70; Tarsus, 1.25.

Under parts rufous brown; **three outer primaries attenuated**; fourth and fifth primaries longest.

Philohela minor.

American Woodcock.

See page 141

Length, **11**; Wing, 5.35; Tail, 2.25; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill 2.60. Throat whitish; belly white; under tail coverts barred with black; no *web between* toes.

Gallinago delicata.

Wilson's Snipe.

English Snipe.

See page 141

Length, **10.50**; Wing, 5.50; Tarsus, 1.35; Bill, 2.40.

Tail and tail coverts barred with black; a *very small web between the inner* toes.

Macrorhamphus griseus.

Dowitcher.

Red-breasted Snipe.

See page 143

Length, **10.75**; Wing, 5.75; Tarsus, 1.50; Bill, 2.65.

Resembling preceding species, but somewhat larger; bill longer.

Macrorhamphus scolopaceus.

Long-billed Dowitcher.

Red-breasted Snipe.

See page 143



Gallinago delicata.

Length under 13 ; wing under 7 ; bill less than 2 and more than 1 ; toes four in number.

Length, **12** ; Wing, 6.75 ; Tarsus, 2 ; Bill, 1.15. Bill greenish, yellowish at base ; legs grayish yellow ; head, upper parts, and breast mottled brown and tawny ; axillars barred white and slate color ; belly white.

Length, **10.50** ; Wing, 6.40 ; Tarsus, 2.05 ; Bill, 1.40. **Legs yellow** ; bill black ; upper parts grayish brown ; breast mottled ; belly white.

Length, **10.50** ; Wing, 6.40 ; Tail, 2.40 ; Tarsus, 1.30 ; Bill, 1.50. **Legs and feet black.** In summer under parts, except belly, reddish brown ; in winter upper parts gray ; breast pale gray.

Length, **9** ; Wing, 5.25 ; Tarsus, 1.05 ; Bill, 1.15. Upper parts brown and tawny ; throat and belly white ; breast pale brown.

Bartramia longicauda.

Bartramian Sandpiper.

Upland Plover. See page 154

Totanus flavipes.

Summer Yellow=legs.

Yellow=legs. See page 151

Tringa canutus.

Knot.

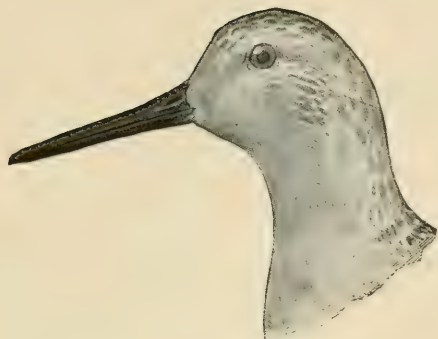
See page 144

Tringa maculata.

Pectoral Sandpiper.

Grass=bird.

See page 145

*Tringa canutus.**Tringa maculata.*

Length, **8.75**; Wing, 5.20; Tarsus, 1; Bill, 1.30.
Upper parts gray, showing faint purplish reflections.

Length, **8**; Wing, 5.20; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.20. Back olive green spotted with white; axillars barred.

Length, **8**; Wing, 5.20; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.60. Legs long; upper tail coverts barred with black and white in summer; white in winter.

Length, **7.90**; Wing, 4.90; Tarsus, 1.05; Bill, 1.60.
Upper belly black in breeding plumage. In winter breast gray, shafts of the feathers brown.

Length, **5.40**; Wing, 3.80; Tarsus, .90; Bill, 1.10.
A small web between the toes.

Length under 10; wing under 6; bill 1 or less; toes four in number.

Length, **8**; Wing, 5.30; Tarsus, 1.10; Bill, .80. Breast buff or grayish buff.

Tringa maritima.

Purple Sandpiper. See page 145

Totanus solitarius.

Solitary Sandpiper. See page 152

Micropalama himantopus.

Stilt Sandpiper. See page 144

Tringa alpina pacifica.

Red-backed Sandpiper.

American Dunlin. See page 147

Ereunetes occidentalis.

Western Sandpiper. See page 148

Tryngites subruficollis.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper.

See page 155

Length, **7.70**; Wing, 5.10; Tarsus, 1.05; Bill, .90.

Middle upper tail coverts white.

Length, **7.50**; Wing, 4.40; Tarsus, 1; Bill, .90 to 1.

Back olive green, showing bronzy reflections when held in the light.

Length, **5.75**; Wing, 3.80; Tarsus, .90; Bill, .85. **A small web between the toes.**

Length, **5.75**; Wing, 4.05; Tarsus, .90; Bill, .70. **No web between the toes.**



Tringa minutilla.

Length under 10; wing under 6; toes three in number.

Length, **8.15**; Wing, 5.05; Tarsus, .95; Bill, 1.

Calidris arenaria.

Sanderling.

See page 148

Length over 13; wing over 7; bill over 2.75; toes four in number.

Length, **24**; Wing, 10; Tail, 4.10; Tarsus, 2.30; Bill from 4 to 8. Bill very long and **curved downward**; general plumage brownish rufous; **axillars barred.**

Length, **18**; Wing, 9; Tail, 3.60; Tarsus, 3; Bill, 4.60. Upper parts brownish; under parts rufous; **bill curved slightly upward**; axillars brownish.

Length, **17.20**; Wing, 9.40; Tarsus, 2.10; Bill, 3.70. **Bill curved downward**; plumage mottled brown above, **middle of head with dull buffy white stripe**; axillars barred.

Tringa fuscicollis.

White-rumped Sandpiper.

See page 146

Actitis macularia.

Spotted Sandpiper. See page 155

Ereunetes pusillus.

Semipalmated Sandpiper.

See page 147

Tringa minutilla.

Least Sandpiper.

See page 146

Numenius longirostris.

Long-billed Curlew. See page 156

Limosa fedoa.

Marbled Godwit.

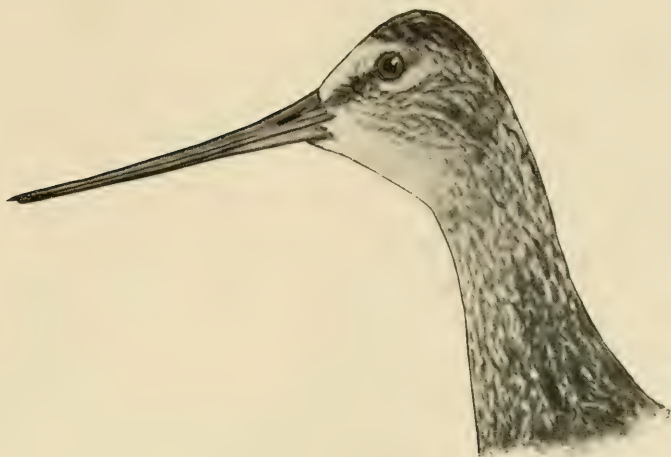
See page 149

Numenius hudsonicus.

Hudsonian Curlew.

Jack Curlew.

See page 157

*Limosa fedoa.*

Length **15.25**; Wing, 8.10; Tarsus, 2.30; Bill, 3.30.

Under parts rufous brown or chestnut brown barred with dusky black; **bill slightly curved upward**; **axillars black**.

Limosa hæmastica.

Hudsonian Godwit. See page 150

Length over 13; wing over 7; bill under 2.75; toes four in number.

Length, **14**; Wing, 7.60; Tarsus, 2.60; Bill, 2.30.

Bill black, nearly straight; **legs yellow**; primaries blackish.

Totanus melanoleucus.

Greater Yellow-legs.

Winter Yellow-legs. See page 151

Length **16**; Wing, 8.50; Tarsus, 2.60; Bill, 2.30. Bill

black, nearly straight; **prominent white patch on wing**; legs grayish; **axillars black**.

Symphemia semipalmata.

Willet.

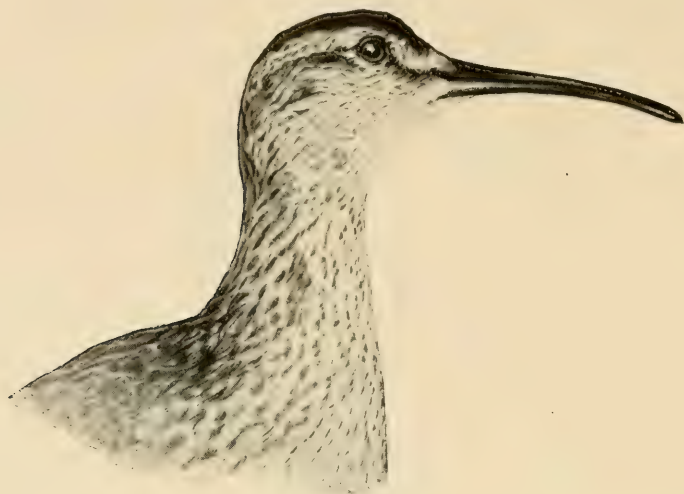
See page 153

Length, **16**; Wing, 8.60; Tarsus, 2.65; Bill, 2.40.

Slightly larger, but very similar to preceding.

Symphemia semipalmata inornata.

Western Willet. See page 154

*Numenius hudsonicus.*

Length, **14**; Wing, 7.40; Tarsus, 2.50; Bill, 2.15.

Rump and upper tail coverts and crissum pure white; bill nearly straight; somewhat resembles a Yellow-legs, but has **olive green legs**.

Totanus nebularius.

Green=shank.

See page 150

Length, **13**; Wing, 8.25; Tarsus, 1.75; **Bill, 2.30.**

Bill curved downward; plumage mottled brown streaked with brown; **top of head dark brown**; axillars barred.

Numenius borealis.

Eskimo Curlew.

Dough-bird.

See page 158

FAMILY CHARADRIIDÆ. PLOVERS.

Length over 9; wing over 6; toes four in number.

(The hind toe so small as hardly to be noticeable.)

Length, **11.50**; Wing, 7.50; Tail, 3; Tarsus, 1.90;

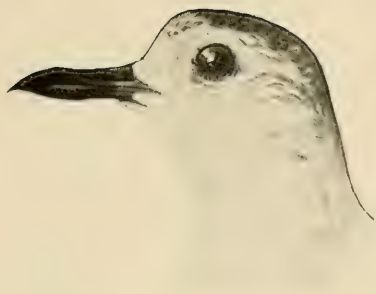
Bill, 1.10. Bill thick; **axillars smoky black.**

Charadrius squatarola.

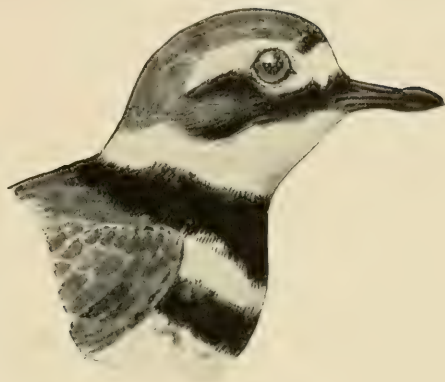
Black-breast Plover.

Beetle-head.

See page 158



Charadrius squatarola (winter).



Ægialitis vocifera.

Length over 9; wing 6 or over; toes three in number.
(No rudimentary hind toe.)

Length, **9.50**; Wing, 7; Tail, 2.50; Tarsus, 1.65; Bill, .90. **Axillars gray.**

***Charadrius dominicus*.**

Golden Plover. See page 160

Length, **10.30**; Wing, 6.50; Tail, 3.50; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, .80. **Rump rufous brown.**

***Ægialitis vocifera*.**

Killdeer Plover. See page 160

Length under 9; wing under 6; toes three in number.

Length, **8.10**; Wing, 6; Tail, 2.60; Tarsus, 1.50; Bill, .80. Above grayish brown; **under parts dull white; buffy white on breast.** In summer, front of crown and loreal streak black. In winter, no black on head.

***Ægialitis montana*.**

Mountain Plover. See page 163

Length, **7.70**; Wing, 4.40; Tail, 1.90; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, .80. Bill large, black; **a band of black or brown on the breast.**

***Ægialitis wilsonia*.**

Wilson's Plover. See page 162

Length, **7**; Wing, 4.50; Tail, 2; Tarsus, .80; Bill, .50. **Bill orange at base; legs yellow; no black stripe from bill to eye.**

***Ægialitis meloda*.**

Piping Plover. See page 162

Length, **7.10**; Wing, 4.75; Tail, 2.25; Tarsus, .90; Bill, .50. Bill orange yellow at base; **a black stripe from the bill passing under the eye; toes with small web.**

***Ægialitis semipalmata*.**

Ring-neck Plover. See page 161

FAMILY APHRIZIDÆ. SURF BIRDS AND TURNSTONES.

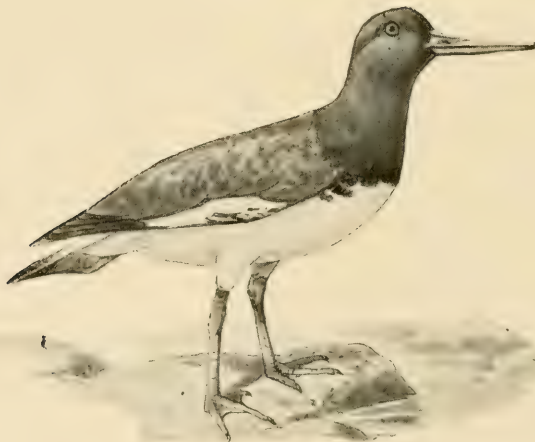
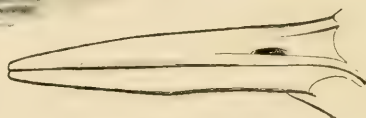
*Arenaria interpres.*

Length, **8.60**; Wing, 5.70; Tail, 2.60; Tarsus, 1;
Bill, .95.

Arenaria interpres.
Turnstone.

See page 164

FAMILY HÆMATOPODIDÆ. OYSTER-CATCHERS.

*Hæmatopus palliatus.**Hæmatopus palliatus* (bill).

Length, **18.50**; Wing, 10.50; Tarsus, 2.35; **Bill, 3.50.**

Head, neck, and back black; under parts white;
bill orange red in winter, deep red in summer.

Hæmatopus palliatus.
Oyster-catcher.

See page 164

ORDER PYGOPODES.

DIVING BIRDS.

FAMILY PODICIPIDÆ. GREBES.

GENUS COLYMBUS LINN.

COLYMBUS AURITUS Linn.

Horned Grebe.



Adult in summer: Upper parts, including back, wings, top of the head and back of the neck, glossy black; throat black; front of the neck, breast, and sides of the body rufous chestnut; rest of under parts white; wings dusky black; secondaries white; lores dull chestnut; the two small tufts of feathers at the sides of the occiput brownish buff.

Adult in winter and immature: Head and back grayish, under parts white, usually *tinged with gray on the breast and lower throat*; no tufts on sides of the head in winter plumage.

Length, 13.40; Wing, 5.40; Tarsus, 1.70; Bill, .85 to .95.

The Horned Grebe is not uncommon on the Atlantic coast during the migrations, breeding from the Northern United States northward and migrating in winter south to Florida and the Gulf States.

The nest is constructed on floating debris; eggs, four to seven, dull white or yellowish white.

Range: "Northern Hemisphere; breeds from United States northward."

(A.O.U.)

GENUS *PODILYMBUS* LESSON.*PODILYMBUS PODICEPS* (Linn.).

Pied-billed Grebe.



Adult in summer plumage: Throat black, and a black band on the bill; no tufts on sides of the head in any plumage. *Winter plumage:* Throat grayish white, no black band on bill; sides faintly washed with pale brown.

Length, 13.50; **Wing, 5**; **Tarsus, 1.45**; Bill, .90.

Often confounded with the preceding species in winter dress.

Florida in winter; not very common. It occasionally breeds in the State.

Range: British Provinces of North America to South America. Nests on floating vegetation or slightly submerged marshes: eggs three to eight, yellowish white or dull white in color.

FAMILY URINATORIDÆ. LOONS, DIVERS.

GENUS URINATOR CUVIER.



URINATOR IMBER (*Gunn.*).

Loon. Great Northern Diver.

Adult in summer: Head and neck black, showing green in some lights. A patch of white streaked with black on the throat and sides of the neck; under parts white; back streaked

and spotted with white. *Winter plumage*: Head grayish, throat white or grayish white, wings and back not streaked or spotted.

Length, **31**; Wing, **14**; Tarsus, 3.35; Bill, 2.75.

A winter visitor to Florida, ranging from the far North, south to the Gulf of Mexico. It breeds from the northern United States northward. The eggs are grayish or greenish brown, heavily blotched with dark brown: they are usually two in number, deposited on the ground; the nest consists merely of a little grass or dried weeds.

URINATOR LUMME (*Gunn.*).

Red-throated Loon. Red-throated Diver.



Adult in summer: Back and wings slaty brown marked with white; head and neck gray; nape black streaked with white; front of the neck *reddish brown*, under parts white.

Adult in winter: Throat white or grayish white; back showing white spots.

Length, **24.50**; Wing, **11.25**; Tarsus, 2.50; Bill, 2.

Florida in winter: not uncommon on the coast. Breeds from the Northern United States northward. It ranges in winter to the Gulf of Mexico. The eggs are two in number, which are deposited on the ground near water, the nest being merely a little grass; they are olive brown in color, blotched with dark brown or black.

ORDER LONGIPENNES.

LONG-WINGED SWIMMERS.

FAMILY STERCORARIIDÆ. JÆGERS.

GENUS STERCORARIUS BRISSON.

STERCORARIUS PARASITICUS (*Linn.*).

Parasitic Jaeger.

Length from base of hook on end of bill (unguis) to frontal feathers greater than from unguis to tip of upper mandible.

Adult (light phase of plumage): upper parts slaty gray, a tinge of pale yellow on the sides of the head and neck. Crown of the head and lores sooty black; under parts white, shading into slaty gray on sides and lower belly; two middle tail feathers pointed.

Adult (dark phase): general plumage sooty brown; slightly paler below; crown dark brown.

Immature (light phase): head and neck streaked with buff or gray; under parts mottled and barred with slaty gray; upper parts dark gray; some of the feathers edged with buff.

Immature (dark phase): general color slaty brown; neck marked with white; feathers on the belly barred with dull white. In all plumage the two middle tail feathers are pointed, and the **tarsus is black** in freshly killed specimens.

Length, 17 to 20; Wing, 13; Tail (adult), 8.40, (immature), 6; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.20.

Accidental on the Florida coast in winter. It ranges from the far North southward to South America and South Africa. It breeds in high northern latitudes. The eggs are olive brown, blotched with chocolate brown. The nest is a little grass in a slight depression in the ground.



Stercorarius parasiticus (adult).



Stercorarius parasiticus (immature).

STERCORARIUS LONGICAUDUS *Vicill.*

Long-tailed Jaeger.

Length from base of the hook on end of upper mandible (unguis) to frontal feathers *less* than from unguis to tip of upper mandible; **tarsus blue in freshly killed specimens, feet black.**

Adult : Above slaty gray; top and sides of the head dull black; sides of the head and neck pale yellow; under parts dark slate color; chest and upper belly whitish.

Immature : Resembles the preceding species in color; but may be distinguished by comparing the measurements of the bill and tail.

Length, 19 to 23; Wing, 12.50; Tail (adult), 12.50 (immature), 6; Tarsus, 1.65; Bill. 1.10.

It breeds in high northern latitudes, ranging southward in winter to the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico. The eggs are three in number, pale olive brown blotched with chocolate brown. It nests on the ground.

A bird of this species was found dead on the beach, a short distance north of Cape Canaveral. I have never seen it alive in Florida.

FAMILY LARIDÆ. GULLS AND TERNS.

SUBFAMILY LARINÆ. GULLS.

GENUS LARUS LINN.

LARUS MARINUS *Linn.***Great Black-backed Gull.**

Adult in summer: Whole **back dark slate color**; outer primaries black, with tips and terminal spots of white; head and under parts white.

Adult in winter: Head and neck streaked with gray. Immature birds are mottled dusky and buff; head and neck streaked; tail with narrow subterminal band; a very large gull.

Length, **29**; Wing, **18**; Tail, **8**; Tarsus, **2.70**; Bill, **2.40**.

Coast of North America south to South Carolina: accidental in Florida. Breeds from Northern Maine northward. The nest is built on the ground; the eggs are usually two, pale brown, marked with chocolate brown.

A specimen of this gull was shot near St. Augustine during the winter of 1894-5.

LARUS ARGENTATUS SMITHSONIANUS *Coues.***American Herring Gull.**

White near end of outer primary separated from the white tip by a band of black.

Adult in summer: **Back pearl gray**; head, neck, and under parts white; in winter the adult has the head and neck streaked with ashy gray. First primary tipped with white with a subterminal band of black; this, in turn, is followed by a white band and then another black one.

Immature: General plumage mottled pale brown or buff.

Length, **24**; Wing, 17.50; Tail, 7.50; Bill, **2.10**.

The European species, *Larus argentatus*, is very similar, but has the two white marks at tip of primary joined and not separated by the black.

Ranges throughout North America; common in Florida in winter. It breeds from Maine northward. Nest constructed of grass or seaweed, usually on the ground; eggs brownish white, lined and blotched with dark brown.

LARUS DELAWARENSIS *Ord.***Ring-billed Gull.**

Adult in summer: **Bill yellowish banded with black**; mantle pearl gray; feet pale yellow or greenish; first primary black with a subterminal white spot. In winter, head and neck streaked with dusky; band on bill less distinct.

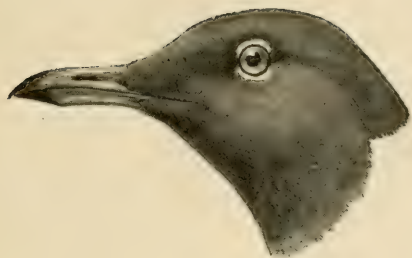
Immature: General plumage mottled gray or buff gray; bill yellowish tipped with black.

Length, 18.40; Wing, 14; Tail, 6; Bill, 1.65.

Ranges throughout North America, in winter south to Gulf of Mexico. Not uncommon in Florida. Nests on the ground; eggs pale buff marked with chocolate brown.

LARUS ATRICILLA Linn.

Laughing Gull.

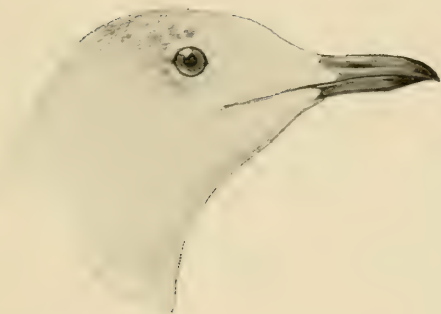


Adult in summer: **Head and throat plumbeous**; rest of upper parts pearl gray; under parts white; **bill reddish**.

Adult in winter: Head white marked with ash gray; throat white.

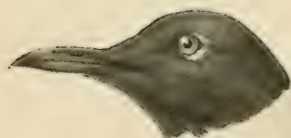
Length, **16.50**; Wing, **12.50**; Tail, 5; Bill, 1.75.

This species has a wide breeding range, extending from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico. It is resident and breeds in Florida. The nest is built on the ground in marshy places, and the eggs, usually four or five, are grayish or pale brownish, blotched with chocolate brown.



LARUS PHILADELPHIA (Ord).

Bonaparte's Gull.



Adult in summer: **Bill black**; head and neck plumbeous; **feet orange red**; tail white.

Adult in winter: Head and neck white; top of the head grayish; **feet flesh color**.

Immature birds have a white tail with subterminal band of black.

Length, **13.50**; Wing, **10.40**; Tail, 4.15; Bill, 1.30.

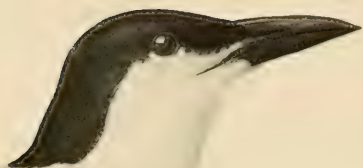
North America, south in winter to Central America and West Indies. Common in Florida in winter. Breeds far northward. Nest composed of brush and grass built in small trees or bushes. Eggs four, pale olive, marked with brown spots.

SUBFAMILY STERNINÆ. TERNS.

GENUS GELOCHELIDON BREHM.

GELOCHELIDON NILOTICA (*Hasselq.*).

Gull-billed Tern.



Adult in summer: Top of head and nape black; upper part, including rump and tail, pearl gray; under parts white; bill and feet black, the former comparatively short and stout.

Adult in winter: Similar, but having the head and neck white, the nape ashy, and a dusky patch in front of the eye.

Length, 14; Wing, 12; Tail, 5.50; Bill, 1.40; Tarsus, 1.30.

A most widely distributed cosmopolitan species. It is common in Florida and probably breeds in the State. It occurs commonly on the middle Atlantic coast in summer where it breeds, and occasionally wandering as far north as Maine. The eggs are usually three in number, pale brownish white, faintly mottled with brown, deposited in a slight depression in the sand.

GENUS STERNA LINN.

STERNA TSCHEGRAVA *Lepech.*

Caspian Tern.



Adult in spring: Bill deep red; top of the head black, rest of upper parts pearl gray; **pri-maries dark slate color** on inner webs, hoary on outer webs; tail grayish white; feet black.

Adult in winter: Top of the head streaked with black; tail showing brownish bars.

Length, 21; Wing, 16; Tail, 6.10; Bill, 2.60; Tarsus, 1.50.

According to Mr. Scott, the Caspian Tern occurs in Florida.* I have never met with it in the State; it is known to breed on the Virginia coast, and probably is a regular summer visitant to Florida.

* Since the above was written, a bird of this species was killed in March near the head of the Banana River by Mr. T. Watson Merrill, of Boston.

STERNA MAXIMA *Bodd.***Royal Tern.**

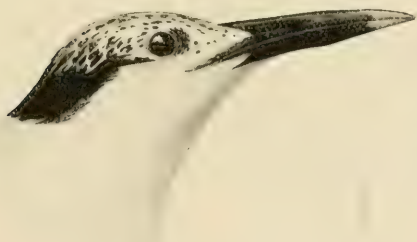
Adult in spring: **Bill orange yellow;** tail forked; crown and nape black; wings and back pearl gray, shading in white on the rump and upper tail coverts; **outer primary abruptly marked with white on inner portion of inner web;** feet black.

Adult in fall and winter: Forehead and front of crown white; occiput and nape black streaked with white; edges of eyelids black.

Length, 19; Wing, 14; Tail, 7; Tarsus, 1.35; Bill, 2.60.

Tropical America, occasionally wandering as far north as New England. It is common in Florida, breeding in the State. It breeds commonly on the middle Atlantic coast, having been found breeding in numbers on the coast of Virginia. The eggs are two to four, dull white, mottled with chocolate brown.

Range: "Tropical America and warmer parts of North America northward to Massachusetts, the Great Lakes, and California, west coast of Africa north to Tangiers." (A.O.U.)

STERNA SANDVICENSIS ACUFLAVIDA (*Cabot*).**Cabot's Tern.**

Adult in spring: **Bill black, tipped with yellow;** cap black; upper back (mantle) whitish; rest of upper plumage pearl gray; under parts white, sometimes showing a faint rosy flush; first primary edged with white to the tip, covering the entire inner web at the base and narrowing to an almost imperceptible line at the tip; tail white, forked; legs and feet black.

In winter the crown is white dotted with black.

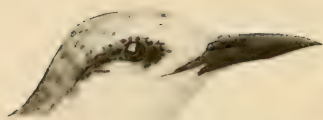
Length, 15.50; Wing, 10.50; Tail, 5.50; Bill, 2.10; Tarsus, .90.

This species occurs in Florida throughout the year, but is much more abundant in summer than in winter. It breeds on both coasts of Florida; the eggs are pale brownish white, streaked and spotted with brown.

Range: "Tropical America, northward along the Atlantic coast irregularly to Southern New England." (A.O.U.)

STERNA FORSTERI Nutt.

Forster's Tern.



Adult in summer: Crown black; upper parts pearl gray; under parts white; **inner web of outer tail feather darker than outer web**; bill reddish orange tipped with black; feet yellowish. *Adult in winter:* Bill dark brown; feet brown; head grayish; a dusky black patch on sides of the head, enclosing the eye. *Immature in winter:* Upper parts mottled with pale brown or buff.

Length, 15; Wing, 10.25; Tail, 6.60; Tarsus, .90; Bill, 1.50.

The range of Forster's Tern extends nearly throughout North America. It is common in winter in Florida, both on the east and west coast. It breeds commonly on Cobb's Island, Va.; the eggs are two to three in number, usually laid on the sand; they are pale buff or greenish gray marked with dark brown.

STERNA HIRUNDO Linn.

Common Tern. Mackerel "Gull."



Adult in summer: **Bill red**, broadly tipped with black; feet red; crown black; upper parts pearl gray; under parts pale ashy gray. *Adult in winter:* Forehead and crown white or grayish white; under parts white. Immature specimens have the upper parts mottled with buff or pale brown. **The outer web of outer tail feather is darker than the inner web** at all seasons.

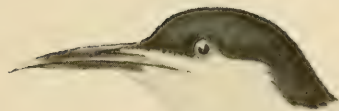


Length, 15; Wing, 10.30; Tail, 5.50; Tarsus, .75; Bill, 1.45.

A widely distributed species not uncommon in Florida in winter. It breeds commonly along the Atlantic coast; the eggs are three in number, grayish or buff white, marked with chocolate brown.

STERNA DOUGALLI *Montag.*

Roseate Tern.



Adult spring plumage: bill black, tinged with red at base; slender; cap black; upper plumage pearl gray; under parts white, tinged with pink when freshly killed. **Tail entirely white**; outer feather longer than the others; legs vermillion red; iris brown. *Adult in winter*: Forehead whitish or grayish white; occiput and upper nape black. Immature specimens have the upper parts mottled with gray and buff.

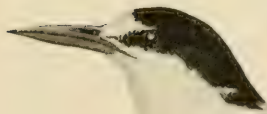
Length, 15; Wing, 7.75; Tail, 7.50; Tarsus, .85; Bill, 1.55.

A common species on the Atlantic coast. It is resident and breeds in Florida, ranging in summer north to New England.

The eggs are three in number, pale, buffy gray or grayish white marked with chocolate brown.

STERNA ANTILLARUM (*Less.*).

Least Tern.



Adult in summer: **Bill yellow**, tipped with black; forehead white; crown and lores black; upper parts pearl gray; under parts white; outer primaries brownish black on outer webs and inner half of inner webs; tail white; feet orange yellow.

Adult in winter: Forepart of crown white, marked with black; occiput black. Immature birds have the upper parts mottled with buff and the bill dark brown.

Length, 9.50; Wing, 7; Tail, 3.50; Tarsus, .60; Bill, 1.20.

This is the smallest of the Terns. It is resident in parts of Florida and breeds in the State. The eggs are three, sometimes four, pale buff or brownish white dotted with brown.

Range: "Northern South America northward to California and New England and casually to Labrador, breeding nearly throughout its range."

(A.O.U.)

STERNA FULIGINOSA *Gmel.*

Sooty Tern.



Adult in summer: Bill black; crown and entire **upper plumage black**; dusky on the nape; forehead white, extending back in a pointed streak from the sides of the forehead, but **not reaching above the eye**; under parts white; outer tail feathers white, shading into dark brown on the inner web near the tip; legs and feet black.

Length, 16.50; Wing, 11.50; Tail, 7; Tarsus, .90; Bill, 1.60.

The Sooty Tern is common along the coast of Southern Florida in summer. It probably breeds in Florida, as it does so in large numbers in the Bahama Islands. Eggs usually two, buff white marked with chocolate brown.

Range: "Tropical and sub-tropical coasts of the globe."

(A.O.U.)

STERNA ANÆTHETUS *Scop.*

Bridled Tern.



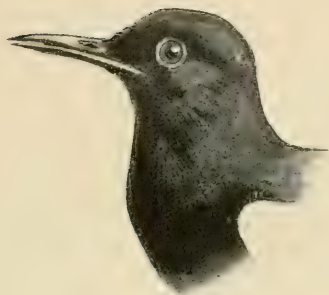
Adult: Spring plumage, bill black; cap black; forehead white, extending in a stripe on both sides of the forehead **over and beyond the eye**; upper back (mantle) grayish, shading into white on the sides of the neck; wings grayish brown, under parts white; primaries dark brown, the first and second showing a stripe of white on the inner webs not reaching the tips; upper tail coverts slaty gray; outer tail feathers almost entirely white, showing a slight tinge of brownish near the tip; legs and feet black.

Length, 14.25; Wing, 10; Tail, 6.25; Tarsus, .70; Bill, 1.50.

The Bridled Tern is a tropical species which is accidental on our coast. It has once been taken in Florida and probably will be found to occur regularly in summer. I found it breeding in the Bahama Islands in June, 1879, in company with the Sooty Terns. The eggs are usually two, cream color or brownish white blotched with chocolate brown.

GENUS HYDROCHELIDON BOIE.

HYDROCHELIDON NIGRA SURINAMENSIS (Gmel.)

Black Tern.

Adult in summer: Upper parts slaty gray; head and under parts black (except under tail coverts); bill and feet black. *Adult in winter:* head white, with a black patch streaked with white on the occiput; upper parts gray. *Immature:* upper parts mottled with buff or pale brown; sides ashy.

Length, 9.50; Wing, 8.30; Tail, 3.60; Tarsus, .70; Bill, 1.10.

The Black Tern occurs on the Atlantic coast from Florida to Prince Edward's Island, and on the west coast from Alaska to Chile. It breeds from the middle United States northward. The eggs are olive brown blotched with pale brown and chocolate brown.

GENUS ANOUS STEPHENS.

ANOUS STOLIDUS (Linn.).

Noddy Tern.

Adult in summer: Bill black; forehead white, shading into gray on the occiput; lower eyelid white; front of the eye, and narrow superciliary line blackish; **general plumage rich olive brown**; primaries dark brown, the first having the inner web pale brown; legs and feet black. The immature birds have the head grayish brown, whitish on the forehead.

Length, 15; Wing, 10; Tail, 5.75; Tarsus, .80; Bill, 1.70.

The Noddy Tern is a summer visitant to our Southern shores, and breeds in Florida on some of the Southern keys. It is abundant in the Bahama Islands and breeds there in June in great numbers. Only one egg is usually laid; but I have found two in a nest on several occasions. The nest, which is constructed of sticks and grass, is built (on the Maraporvos Islands, Bahamas,) upon the low cactus plants which cover the islands. Occasionally an egg was found in a depression of the rock without any nest. The eggs are buff white marked with reddish brown.

FAMILY RHYNCHOPIDÆ. SKIMMERS.

GENUS RHYNCHOPS LINN.

**RHYNCHOPS NIGRA** Linn.**Black Skimmer.**

Adult in summer: Bill thin, knife-like, lower mandible the longer, basal half vermillion red, blackish at tip; forehead, lores, and cheeks, and entire under part to crissum, and tips of secondaries white; under lining of wing and axillars white; rest of plumage black; tail white, the shafts of the feathers brownish above.

Adult in winter: Similar but browner, and showing a white nuchal collar.

Length, 18 to 20; Wing, 15; Tail, 5.50; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill (culmen), 2.70; Gonys, 4.25.

A common resident in Florida, it breeds on the Atlantic coast from Florida to Virginia. The eggs, usually four, are brownish white blotched with chocolate brown; they are deposited on the sand without any nest.

Range: "Warmer parts of America north on the Atlantic coast to New Jersey and casually to the Bay of Fundy." (A.O.U.)

ORDER TUBINARES.

TUBE-NOSED SWIMMERS.

FAMILY DIOMEDEIDÆ. ALBATROSSES.

GENUS DIOMEDEA LINN.

DIOMEDEA EXULANS *Linn.*

Wandering Albatross.



Adult : General color yellowish white ; remiges dusky ; bill white, pale yellowish at tip. *Immature* birds are dark brown, showing whitish on the forehead and face.

Length about **4 feet** ; extent of wings (spread) about 10 to 12 feet.

The only claim this species has to be included among our birds is the alleged capture of a specimen in Tampa Bay, Florida. It is an Antarctic species.

FAMILY PROCELLARIIDÆ. FULMARS, SHEARWATERS, PETRELS.

GENUS PUFFINUS BRISSON.

PUFFINUS MAJOR *Faber.*

Greater Shearwater.



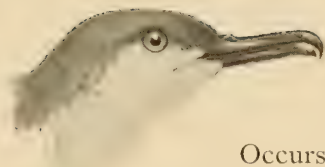
Adult : General plumage brown, grayish on the head ; under parts and lining of wing white tail brown : crissum dark : **under tail coverts gray** ; tarsus dark in front, the rest pale.

Length, **19** ; Wing, 12.50 ; Tail, 5.75 ; Bill, 2.40 Tarsus, 2.

Ranges from Cape Horn and Cape of Good Hope to Greenland. I know of no positive record of the occurrence of this bird in Florida, but once saw a stuffed specimen in Jacksonville, which the dealer claimed was killed off the coast.

PUFFINUS AUDUBONI *Finsch.*

Audubon's Shearwater.



Adult: Above glossy brown, shading into grayish on the sides of the breast; below white; crissum brown and white; tail brown, the feathers tipped with ashy; bill plumbeous.

Length, 11.50; Wing, 8; Bill, 1.20; Tarsus, 1.55.

Occurs on the Atlantic coast from Florida to New Jersey; very common in the Bahama Islands, where it breeds; nest in holes in the rocks, where the bird lays a single chalky white egg.

GENUS ÆSTRELATA BONAP.

ÆSTRELATA HASITATA (*Kuhl*).

Black-capped Petrel.

Adult: Head white; crown black; upper parts except upper tail coverts dusky; under parts white; sides of the chest sometimes gray. **Upper and under tail coverts white.**

Length, 16.50; Wing, 12; Bill, 1.35; Tarsus, 1.40.

An Atlantic species rarely found near the coast. It has been taken in "Florida and on Long Island." (*Ridgway, Man. N. A. Birds, p. 66.*)

GENUS OCEANITES KEYS. AND BLAS.

OCEANITES OCEANICUS (*Kuhl*).

Wilson's Petrel. Mother Cary's Chicken.

Adult: General **plumage dark brown**; wing coverts edged with pale brown; part of upper tail coverts **white**; tail black; bill black; legs and feet black; yellow spots on the webs between the toes.

Length, 7; Wing, 5.60; Tail, 2.45; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, .60.

Common off the Atlantic coast in summer. It ranges throughout the "North and South Atlantic and Southern Oceans." (A.O.U.)

GENUS CYMODROMA RIDGWAY.

CYMODROMA GRALLARIA (*Vieill.*).

White-bellied Petrel.

Upper parts dusky, under parts white.

"Throat usually with only concealed white and without white on the hind neck."

Length, 8; Wing, 6.25; Tail, 3.10; Tarsus, 1.50.

"Intertropical seas, north casually to coast of Florida."

(*Ridgway, Man. N. A. Birds, p. 72.*)

ORDER STEGANOPODES.

TOTIPALMATE SWIMMERS.

FAMILY PHAËTHONTIDÆ. · TROPIC · BIRDS.

GENUS PHAËTHON LINN.

PHAËTHON FLAVIROSTRIS *Brandt.*

Yellow-billed Tropic Bird.

Adult: Bill pale orange yellow; general plumage white, sometimes slightly rose-tinted, most of the primaries showing much black; a black streak passing through the eye; some of the wing coverts and shafts of the tail feathers black; tail elongated into two very long feathers, which are slightly reddened; tarsus bluish; iris black; webs and toes black.

Length, including tail feathers, 31.50; Wing, 11; Tail, 21; Tarsus, .90; Bill, 2.

The Yellow-billed Tropic Bird is of rare occurrence on our shores, but is common in the Bahama Islands, and has been recorded from Florida.

FAMILY SULIDÆ. GANNETS.

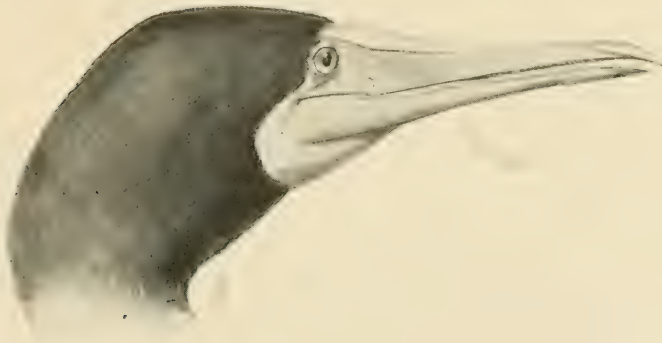
GENUS SULA BRISSON.

SULA CYANOPS *Sunderal.***Blue-faced Booby.**

Adult: **General plumage white**; remiges and greater wing coverts dark brown; middle rectrices hoary white tipped with brown; rest of tail feathers dark brown, white at the base; feet reddish; **gular sac bluish.**

Length, **27**; Wing, **16**; Tail, 7.70; Bill, 3.90; Tarsus, 1.85.

This species is claimed to occur on the Florida coast, although it must be considered as accidental. It has been found breeding in the Bahama Islands.

SULA SULA (*Linn.*).**Common Booby.**

Adult: Head and throat, upper part of breast, and entire upper **plumage dark olive brown**, under parts white; **gular sac pale yellow**; upper mandible greenish; feet pale yellowish green; iris yellow.

Length, **27**; Wing, **15.50**; Tail, 8; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 4.

Claimed to have been taken in Florida, where it is probably accidental.

It is not uncommon in the Bahama Islands, where it breeds.

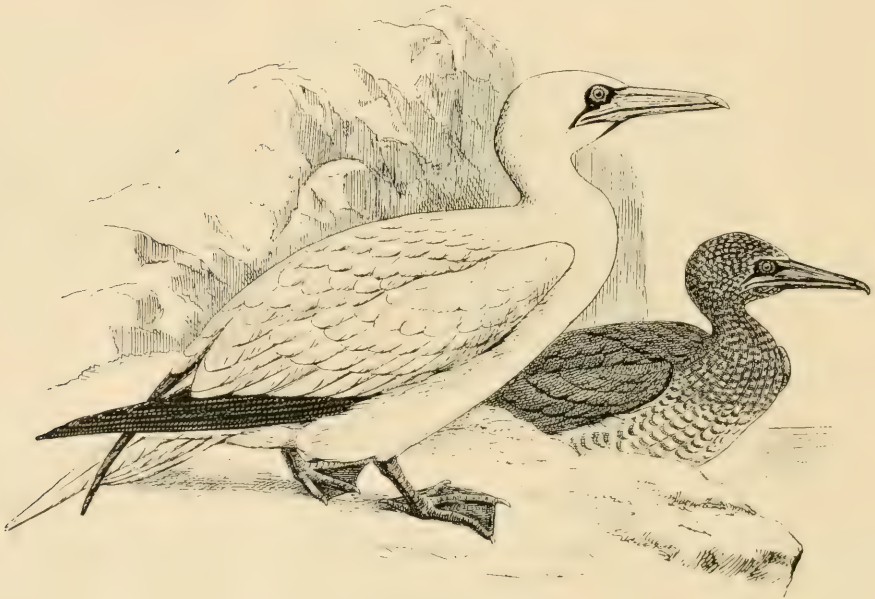
SULA PISCATOR (*Linn.*).**Red-footed Booby.**

Adult: General color **white**, showing a **buff tinge on the head** and neck. Shafts of the tail feathers pale yellow; remiges and most of the wing coverts slate-gray, showing an ash tinge; feet **reddish**. *Immature*: General plumage grayish brown above; dull gray beneath, sometimes whitish; plumage very variable.

Length, 27; Wing, 14.50; Tail, 8; Tarsus, 2.10; Bill, 3.30.

Range: "Coast and islands of tropical and sub-tropical seas north to Western Mexico and Florida." (A.O.U.)

This species has very little claim to be included in our fauna. It may occasionally occur on the Florida coast in summer.

SUBGENUS **DYSPORUS** ILLIGER.**SULA BASSANA** (*Linn.*).**Gannet.**

Adult.

Immature.

Adult: Very large; head and neck white tinged with yellowish buff; **general color white**; primaries dark brown; bare space about the eyes, bluish black. *Immature*: General plumage

mottled, grayish brown and white, showing wedge-shape white marks near the ends of the feathers.

Length, **36**; Wing, **19.25**; Tail, 9.50; Tarsus, 2.20; Bill, 4.

The Gannet occasionally occurs in Florida in winter. It breeds from Nova Scotia northward, usually on rocky cliffs. The female lays one chalky-white egg. I found it breeding in great numbers on Bird Rock, Magdalene Islands in 1877.

FAMILY ANHINGIDÆ. DARTERS.

GENUS ANHINGA BRISSON.



(Male.)

ANHINGA ANHINGA (Linn.).

Anhinga. Water Turkey. Darter. Snake Bird.

Adult male: Breeding plumage, head and neck black, showing a greenish gloss; back of the head and neck showing lengthened hair-like feathers of dull white; back mottled and streaked with white; upper mandible olive edged with yellow; lower mandible yellow, shading

into green at the tip; gular sac yellow. In winter the male loses the white hair-like feathers on the neck; middle tail feathers showing transverse fluting.

Adult female: Head, neck, and breast buff color, darker on the nape.

Length, 33.50; Wing, 13.50; Tail, 10.50; Tarsus, 1.35; Bill, 3.25.

Ranges on the Atlantic coast from Florida to the Carolinas. It is resident and breeds in Florida, building its nest on some limb overhanging water. The eggs are usually two or three and chalky white, having a bluish tinge.

FAMILY PHALACROCORACIDÆ. CORMORANTS.

GENUS PHALACROCORAX BRISSON.



PHALACROCORAX DILOPHUS FLORIDANUS (*Aud.*).

Florida Cormorant.

Adult in summer: General plumage black; back and wing coverts slaty brown; tail consists of twelve feathers.

Length, 36; Wing, 12; Tail, 5.75; Bill, 2.20.

Common on the Florida coast. It breeds in the State, the nest being built on bushes or trees. The eggs are dirty white with a bluish tinge.

FAMILY PELECANIDÆ. PELICANS.

GENUS PELECANUS LINN.

SUBGENUS CYRTOPELICANUS REICH.

**PELECANUS ERYTHORHYNCHOS** *Gmel.***American White Pelican.**

Adult in breeding plumage: General plumage white; bill yellowish with horny protuberance on the top (this is lacking in winter); primaries black; pouch is lemon yellow and the legs pale yellow; iris straw color.

Length, **60**; Wing, **24.50**; Tarsus, 4.45; Bill, 12.

The White Pelican is common in Central America and on the coast of California and Mexico; it occurs regularly in Florida, and is not uncommon in some localities, but its numbers are decreasing every year. It has been known to breed in the State; but does not do so regularly, as it is usually a winter visitant to Florida.



PELECANUS FUSCUS *Linn.*

Brown Pelican.

Adult in breeding plumage: Neck chestnut brown; head and line at the base of the pouch yellowish white; upper parts ashy gray, some of the feathers edged with brownish. Bill brownish white marked with red in spots; pouch dark greenish black; bare space in front of the eye bluish; tail consists of twenty-two feathers. The immature bird has the head and neck brownish gray.

Length, **50**; Wing, **20**; Tarsus, 2.90; Bill, 11.

This species is abundant in Florida, breeding in numbers in some localities. The eggs are three to five, of a bluish white color, covered with a chalky deposit.

Habitat: "Atlantic coast of tropical and sub-tropical America, north on the Atlantic coast to North Carolina; accidental in Illinois." (A.O.U.)

FAMILY FREGATIDÆ. MAN-O'-WAR BIRDS.

GENUS FREGATA CUVIER.

**FREGATA AQUILA** (*Linn.*).**Man-o'-War Bird.**

Adult male : Entire plumage brownish black, showing a greenish reflection on the head, and purplish upon the back ; tail forked and composed of twelve feathers ; gular sac pale orange ; iris brown.

Adult female : Differs from the male by having a white patch on the breast, which extends along the sides of the neck and around it near the middle.

Length, **43** ; Wing, 25 ; Tail, 19 ; Tarsus, 1 ; Bill, 6.

This species is common on the Florida coast. It is possible that it may nest on some of the keys ; but I know of no actual record of its breeding in the United States. It breeds commonly in the Bahama Islands, where I have often found its nest. The female lays one white egg.

Ranges along the tropical and sub-tropical coast of America, and an occasional straggler has been recorded as far north as Nova Scotia.

ORDER ANSERES.

LAMELLIROSTRAL SWIMMERS.

FAMILY ANATIDÆ. DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS.

SUBFAMILY MERGINÆ. MERGANSERS.

Fish-eating ducks having narrow bills with tooth-like serrations on edges.

GENUS MERGANSER BRISSON.



Merganser americanus (male).



Merganser americanus (female).

MERGANSER AMERICANUS (Cass.).

American Merganser.

Adult male : Bill red, long and narrow, with tooth-like serrations; head and neck greenish black : **under parts creamy white tinged with salmon color** ; tail gray ; feet red.

Length, 26.50 ; Wing, 11 ; Tarsus, 2 ; Bill, 2.10.

Adult female : Upper throat white ; breast and head rufous brown ; belly white ; speculum white ; feet orange.

Length, **24.50** ; Wing, **9.75** ; Tarsus, 1.90 ; Bill, 2.

The distance from the nostril to the tip of the bill is less than 1.50 inches in this species, and the female may be distinguished from the next species, viz., Red-breasted Merganser, by this

character, as the Red-breasted Merganser has a distance from the nostril to the tip of the bill of more than 1.50 inches.

This species ranges throughout North America and is not uncommon on the Atlantic coast from Maine to Georgia. Occasionally a specimen wanders as far south as Florida, although it is not common in that State. I have on one occasion killed a specimen near the head of Indian River. The nest is composed of a little grass or leaves on a ledge or occasionally in a hole in a tree.

The eggs are from seven to ten, of a pale yellow buff color.



Merganser serrator (male.)

MERGANSER SERRATOR (*Linn.*).

Red-breasted Merganser.

Adult male: Head and throat black tinged with greenish; a white ring around the neck not always well marked; **breast rufous streaked with black**; lower breast and belly white; the sides and rump delicately pencilled with black. Distance from nostril to tip of bill **more than 1.50**.

Length, 23; Wing, 9; Tarsus, 1.90; Bill, 2.30.

Female and young male: Head brownish; throat pale buff; back gray; under parts of the body are white and speculum is white.

Length, **21**; Wing, **8.80**; Tarsus, 1.90; Bill, 2.50.

Inhabits the northern part of the Northern Hemisphere, ranging in winter southward throughout the United States to Cuba. It is a common bird on

the Atlantic coast and is the common "Sheldrake" of Florida; some winters they are abundant. This and the Hooded Merganser are the two species which are common in Florida in winter.

The female of this species may be easily distinguished from the American Merganser by the difference in the measurement of the bill; the bird is also somewhat smaller. The distance from the nostril to the tip of the bill in this species measures more than 1.50 inches.

It breeds from New Brunswick northward, the eggs being pale buff in color and usually from eight to twelve in number.

GENUS LOPHODYTES REICH.

LOPHODYTES CUCULLATUS (*Linn.*).

Hooded Merganser.



(Male.)

Adult male: Head with large black and white crest; upper parts black; under parts white having the sides brownish delicately barred with black.

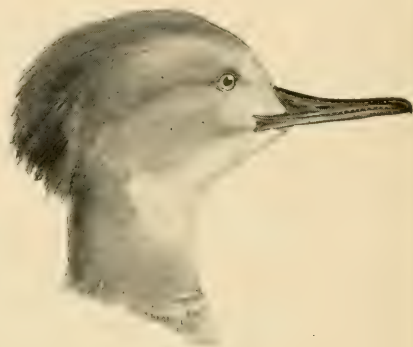
Length, **19.50**; Wing, **7.75**; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 1.50.

Adult female: Head and neck brownish, showing a slight crest, but not nearly as large as in the male; under parts white.

Length, **18.50**; Wing, **7.75**; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 1.50.

The young bird resembles the female, but has no crest.
Length, **18.50**; Wing, **7.70**; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.50.

This species is found in many parts of North America, having a wide distribution. It is common in Florida in winter, and ranges along the Gulf

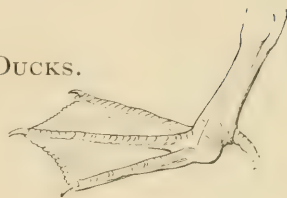


(Female.)

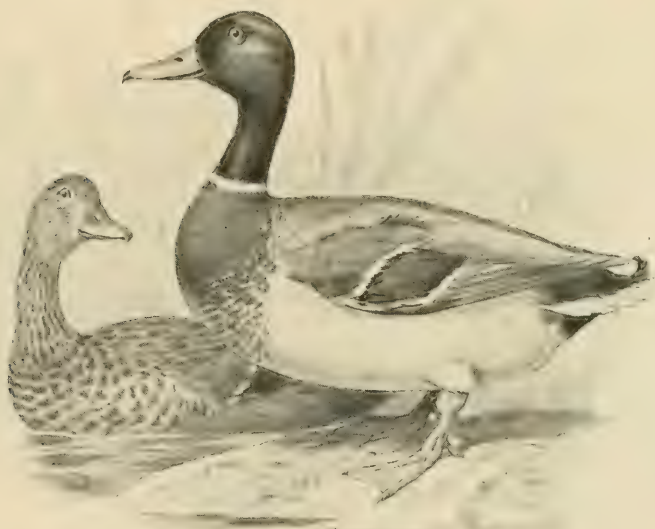
coast to Mexico and Cuba, breeding throughout its range. The eggs are usually deposited in a hollow tree near the water; they are white, sometimes buffy white in color, and usually number from seven to ten. It has a peculiar note, somewhat resembling that of the Scaup Duck, but sharper.

SUBFAMILY ANATINÆ. RIVER DUCKS.

Ducks having hind toe without membranous lobe
or flap.



GENUS ANAS LINN.



(Female.)

(Male.)

ANAS BOSCHAS. Linn.

Mallard.

Adult male : Head and neck dark green with a white ring on the neck ; under parts whitish or ashy white ; breast is rich chestnut brown ; under tail coverts black ; upper tail coverts are also black with central feathers elongated and curved upwards ; **speculum purple bordered with black and white** ; feet orange red.

Adult female : Speculum purple bordered with black and white ; head brownish buff ; belly buffy brown, usually mottled ; feet are red.

Length, **23** ; Wing, 10.50 ; Bill, 2.20.

This species inhabits the northern part of the Northern Hemisphere. It breeds far northward and ranges in winter to the West Indies and Central America and is not uncommon in Northern Florida. I have killed a num-

ber of specimens near Cape Canaveral. The eggs are greenish white and usually from seven to ten in number.

The Mallard is known to cross with various species, some sixty or seventy hybrids having been recorded; the most common crosses being with the Pintail, Black Duck, and Widgeon. The female may always be distinguished from the Black Duck by the white border of the speculum.

The male says, "Drake, drake, drake, drake," several times in a husky voice and also "Shwipec," low and husky like a Black Duck. The female "quacks." Drakes rarely "quack"; in most species of ducks it is usually the female.

ANAS OBSCURA *Gmel.*

Black Duck. Dusky Duck.



Head and neck pale brown, finely dotted and streaked with dark brown; top of the head darker than the cheeks; general plumage dark brown; feathers edged with pale buff; **speculum purple edged with black**; bill yellowish green with dark nail, no black at the base; feet orange red with dusky webs; the color of the feet varies.

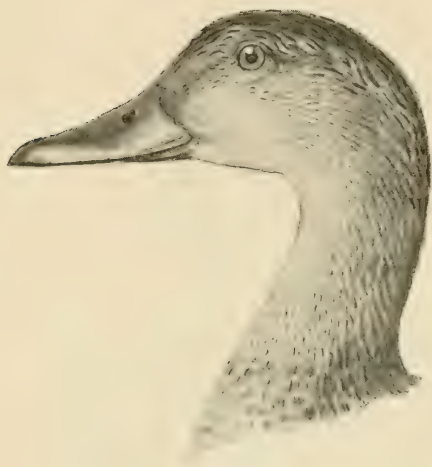
Length, **21**; Wing, 10.75; Bill, 2.10; Tarsus, 1.75.

This species may always be easily distinguished from the female of the Mallard by the absence of the white stripe on the speculum. It is pretty well distributed over North America and breeds from New England northward.

The male says: "Drake, drake, drake, drake," and also "Shwipec," in a husky voice; the female "quacks."

It ranges in winter to Cuba and the Antilles and is common in Florida, where it may easily be distinguished from the local species by the streaked cheeks and throat. It is also darker in color than the Florida Black Duck.

The eggs are nine to twelve and are pale greenish white.



ANAS FULVIGULA Ridgway.

Florida Black Duck. Florida Dusky Duck.

Adult male : Upper mandible yellowish olive, nail and spot at base of mandible black ; sometimes mixed with dull orange ; under mandible yellowish olive, dusky at tip ; legs and toes pale orange with the webs red ; iris brown.

Adult female : Legs and toes dull Indian red ; webs mottled brownish and flesh color ; upper mandible yellowish olive showing a brownish stripe on the middle and the nail and a spot at the base black ; under mandible pale orange yellow.

General appearance of the Northern Black Duck and lighter in color and having the **throat and cheeks almost without streaks and very pale buff in color.**

Length, 20 ; Wing, 10.20 ; Bill, 2 ; Tarsus, 1.70.

This is a resident species in Florida, where it is becoming rather rare in many localities where it was once common. It nests in the marshes, the eggs being pale greenish in color. I have found two nests of this species on the Banana River. Eggs are usually from eight to ten in number, but I have heard of fourteen eggs being taken in a nest. The note resembles that of the Black Duck.

SUBGENUS **CHAULELASMUS** BONAPARTE.

(Male.)

ANAS STREPERA *Linn.***Gadwall.**

Adult male: Head brownish finely streaked with black and dark brown; sides of the head pale brown mottled with black; neck and breast mottled (black and white), the feathers being black having a central white mark; under parts white (sometimes grayish white). Under tail coverts are black and upper tail coverts and rump are black: **speculum gray and white**; the lesser wing coverts chestnut; bill black; feet orange.

Length, **19.50**; Wing, 10; Bill, 1.60.

Adult female: Somewhat resembles the male but has the under wing coverts pure white and usually little or no chestnut on the lesser wing coverts.

Length, 19; Wing, 10; Bill, 1.55.

Range: North America, breeding usually in the interior in the northern part. It is common in Florida in winter where it is known as Creek Duck. The eggs are usually from nine to twelve and buffy white in color. The note of the male somewhat resembles the call of a deer or perhaps the squeak of a door; the female "quacks" softly.

SUBGENUS **MARECA** STEPHENS.

(Male.)

ANAS AMERICANA *Gmel.***Baldpate. American Widgeon.**

Adult male: Head speckled black and white; top of the head white; a broad stripe of greenish back of the eye to the occiput; chin blackish; upper breast pale ashy lilac or vinaceous; rest of under parts pure white; crissum and under tail coverts black; back ashy vinaceous finely pencilled with black; a broad patch of white on the wing; most of the secondaries have the outer web black edged with white; the inner webs are grayish towards the tip; speculum black and green.

Adult female: Head and throat whitish, streaked and mottled with black; back grayish brown; tertials dusky edged with whitish.

Length, 19; Wing, 10.50; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.40.

This species ranges nearly throughout North America but does not breed on the Atlantic coast as far as known. It is very common in winter in Florida occurring along the Gulf to Central America and Northern South

America and the West Indies. The eggs are pale brownish white from eight to twelve in number.

The European Widgeon (*Anas penelope*), which occasionally wanders to our shores has the head cinnamon, speckled with brown while the American form has the head grayish speckled with dusky. The note of the male is three soft whistles "Do mi do" of the scale; the female "quacks."

SUBGENUS **NETTION** KAUP.



(Male.)



(Female.)

ANAS CAROLINENSIS *Gmel.*

Green-winged Teal.

Head and neck chestnut brown; a patch of green behind the eye extending to the nape. Feathers are somewhat elongated forming a small crest; sides and back pale, marked with narrow fine lines of black; under parts white, shading into pale brown or buff on the breast, which is also spotted with black; speculum green bordered with black and chestnut.

Adult female: Has top of the head brownish margined with reddish brown; throat and side of the neck white spotted with black; breast brownish with black spots; rest of under parts white, sometimes showing black spots on the under tail coverts.

Length, **14.50**; Wing, 7.20; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.50.

This species ranges throughout North America breeding north of the United States. Ranges south in winter to the West Indies, the Gulf of Mexico and Central America; common in Florida in winter. The eggs are pale brownish white and usually number from seven to twelve.

The male whistles sharp and low, and the female "quacks."

SUBGENUS QUERQUEDULA STEPHENS.

ANAS DISCORS Linn.

Blue-winged Teal.

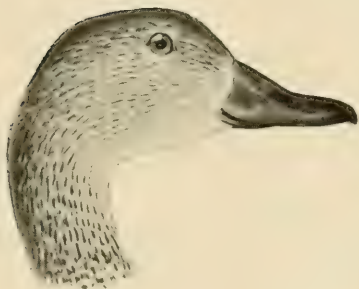


(Male.)

Adult male: Head gray with purplish gloss, darkest on top; a **white patch resembling a crescent in front of the eye**; wing coverts and some of the scapulars pale grayish blue forming a grayish **blue patch on the wing**; speculum rich green; under parts purplish gray spotted on the breast with black; the flanks are narrowly barred with black. The bill is black, the feet yellow.

Adult female: Showing a blue patch on wing, which distinguishes it from other Teals, except the female of *Anas cyanoptera*, but the color of the head will always distinguish it from that species.

Length, 16; Wing, 7.25; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.60.



(Female.)

Ranges throughout Eastern North America breeding chiefly north of the United States. In winter it is common in Florida and its range extends to the West Indies and Northern South America. The eggs are pale buff usually from eight to twelve in number. The male whistles and the female "quacks."

ANAS CYANOPTERA Vieill.

Cinnamon Teal.



(Male.)

Adult male: **Head, neck, and upper parts chestnut brown**, the crown somewhat darker than the sides of the head; under parts brownish showing dusky on the belly; rump olive brown, feathers becoming lighter on the edges; wing coverts blue gray, similar to the Blue-winged Teal; speculum green; the general coloration of the wing being similar to the Blue-winged Teal, but the coloration of the body is so different that it should never be confounded with that species.

Adult female: Resembles the female of the Blue-winged Teal although larger; the under parts show

a trace of the chestnut marking of the male and the upper throat and chin are more speckled, otherwise apparently quite similar to *Anas discors*.

Length, 16; Wing, 7.50; Bill, 1.75; Tarsus, 1.30.

This is a species which is usually confined to Western North America, only occasionally reaching the Atlantic Coast in the Southeastern States. It has been recorded from Florida, but I have never seen an example from that State, although it is given as quite common by several authors. It extends to Southern South America in its range; does not breed on the east coast.

GENUS SPATULA BOIE.



(Male.)

SPATULA CLYPEATA (Linn.).

Shoveller.

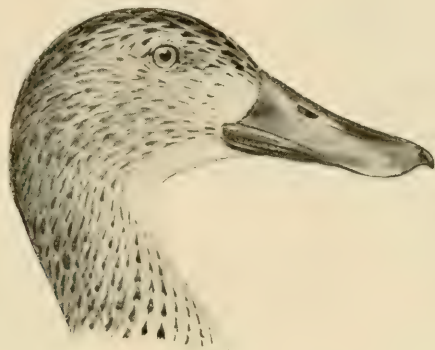
Adult male: Bill very much broadened; head and neck dark green; breast pure white shading into purplish chestnut on the belly; wing coverts blue; speculum green edged with white; feet orange red.

Length, 20; Wing, 9.50; Bill, 2.70; Tarsus, 1.50.

Adult female: Head and neck mottled and streaked with pale brown and dark brown or black; under parts brownish, mottled and spotted with fuscous, scarcely showing on the middle of the belly; speculum and wing coverts as in the male.

Length, 19.50; Wing, 9.50; Bill, 2.60; Tarsus, 1.50.

The immature male is often intermediate in plumage between the adult male and female, but the speculum shows but little green and the wing coverts are slaty gray. The head is often very much mottled when changing to adult plumage.



(Female.)

This species ranges throughout the Northern Hemisphere, commonly in the interior. It breeds from Minnesota northward as a rule; there is no record of its breeding in the Atlantic States.

Ranges in winter to South America, being one of the common species in Florida during the winter months. The eggs are pale buff white, usually from six to ten in number. The note of the male is a guttural short "Thuck thuck"; the female "quacks."

GENUS DAFILA STEPHENS.

DAFILA ACUTA (*Linn.*).

Pintail. Sprigtail.

Adult male: **Bill black having the edges lead color; head and neck dark rufous brown** sometimes showing a faint gloss of green on the feathers; sides of the neck showing a stripe of white and a stripe of black extending down the back of the neck; under parts white showing faint wavy fine lines of dusky on the sides; crissum black edged with white; **central tail feathers very much elongated** in the male; **feet lead color.**

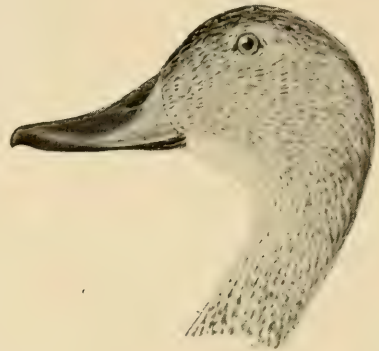
Length, 28; Wing, 9.50; Tail, 7; Bill, 2.

Adult female: Tail feathers not so much elongated as in the male; crown and sides of the head streaked with dusky and pale brown; breast spotted with dark brown or black; under parts white; abdomen and sides showing faint lines of dusky; under wing coverts fuscous edged with white axillars marked with black; speculum grayish brown edged with white. The immature male shows considerable variation in plumage, the under parts being usually more streaked or spotted than the adult female, which it otherwise somewhat resembles.

Length, 22; Wing, 9.25; Tail, 3.50; Bill, 2.



Dafila acuta (male).



(Female.)

Ranges throughout the Northern Hemisphere breeding from Illinois northward; apparently does not breed on the Atlantic Coast, but is common in winter from Virginia and the Carolinas southward to the West Indies and Central America. It is one of the common ducks in Florida.

Eggs are usually from seven to twelve and are bluish white in color. The female Pintail may always be recognized by the pointed middle tail feathers and the blackish under wing coverts.

The male whistles and the female "quacks."

GENUS AIX BOIE.



(Male.)



(Female.)

AIX SPONSA (Linn.).

Wood Duck.

Adult male: Bill red marked with rose-white and a black stripe on the middle of the upper mandible and tip; under mandible black; head with decided crest, which shows white, metallic green, and purple; a narrow superciliary line from the bill to the occiput and another stripe of white behind the eye extending to the nape; chin and throat white, extending upwards in a streak on sides of head, back of eye; a stripe passing upwards on the side of the head; sides and front of the lower neck and under breast purplish chestnut dotted with white spots; under parts white, sides sometimes grayish showing faint pencilling of dusky lines; upper parts showing bronze green and purple; speculum bluish green edged with black and white.

Length, 18.50; Wing, 9.50; Bill, 1.40.

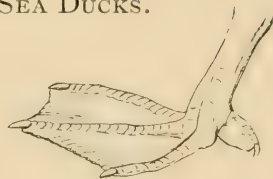
Adult female: Crest small but the feathers somewhat lengthened; head and neck grayish, whitening on the chin and front of the eyes; front of the neck and breast pale brown mottled with grayish; the breast showing numerous brown spots which fade away on the lower breast; belly white.

Length, 18; Wing, 9.30; Bill, 1.35.

This species ranges from the Gulf northward to Hudson's Bay, breeding nearly throughout its range; it is common in the interior of Florida and has been taken in Cuba and Jamaica. The eggs are pale brownish white and usually number from seven to fourteen. It nests in a hole in a tree.

SUBFAMILY FULIGULINÆ. BAY AND SEA DUCKS.

Ducks having flap or membranous lobe on hind toe.



GENUS AYTHYA BOIE.



AYTHYA AMERICANA (Eyt.).

Red-head Duck.

Adult male: **Head and neck brownish chestnut**; lower neck and upper breast blackish; back apparently grayish being pencilled with wavy lines of black; speculum grayish; upper feathers edged with black, the rest narrowly tipped with white.

Length, 21; Wing, 8.40; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 2.20.

Adult female: Bill bluish showing an indistinct bar near the end; head and neck reddish brown, palest on the sides of the head, becoming ashy on the sides of the head; upper throat white; breast and sides brownish; belly white; under tail coverts and lower belly sometimes washed with pale brownish.

Length, 20.50; Wing, 8.30; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 2.20.

This is rather a Western species, as it breeds very rarely on the Atlantic coast of the United States. It is common in the West breeding from

Minnesota northward. It ranges in winter south to the Northern West Indies and occasionally occurs in Florida, although not in any great numbers. It is a very abundant species from Carolina to Virginia during the winter, in suitable localities. The Red-head may easily be distinguished from the Canvas-back by the shape of the bill. The forehead arches abruptly from the bill and does not follow the line of the bill, as in the Canvas-back.

The female Red-head closely resembles the female of the Ring-necked Duck but is larger. It does not breed on the Atlantic coast.*

AYTHYA VALLISNERIA (*Wils.*).

Canvas-back Duck.



Adult male: Head and neck rufous brown becoming dusky on the crown and chin; the breast and upper portion of the back blackish; rest of upper parts and wing coverts showing fine wavy lines of black, general appearance being grayish; belly white, the lower portion faintly lined with dusky. Sides white, showing the delicate lines as on the back, but very much fainter and sometimes wanting.

Adult female: Head and neck cinnamon brown, paler on the throat; belly white or grayish white.

Length, 20 to 22; Wing, 8.75 to 9.25; Bill, .75 to .80; Tarsus, 1.70.

The peculiar formation of the bill will always distinguish this species from the Red-head, which it somewhat resembles.

Occurs throughout North America and is more common in the West. Breeds from the Northwestern States northward to Alaska. It ranges in winter south to Cuba and Jamaica, although it is only a straggler and is by no means common in Florida. I have occasionally killed specimens as far south as Cape Canaveral.

This species is common off the coast of Virginia and Chesapeake Bay during the winter months. It does not breed on the Atlantic coast.

* A single instance is on record of a pair being found breeding near Calais, Maine.

SUBGENUS **FULVIGULA** STEPHENS.

(Male.)



(Female.)

AYTHYA MARILA NEARCTICA *Stejn.***American Scaup Duck.**

Adult male: Head and neck and upper breast black showing greenish reflections; back grayish white delicately lined with fine wavy lines of black, giving it a grayish appearance; **speculum white**; under parts white, the lower belly showing grayish tinge.

Length, 19; Wing, 8.50; Tarsus, 1.50; Bill, 2.

Adult female: Patch at the base of the bill white or grayish white, rest of the head and neck, breast and upper back brownish; belly white; **speculum white**.

Length, 17.75; Wing, 8.25; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 1.60.

Species ranges throughout North America, breeding north of the United States. It ranges in winter south to the Bahama Islands, and on the Atlantic coast south to Florida, although it is not nearly as abundant in Southern waters as *A. m. affinis*, to which it is very closely allied. There are, ap-

parently, no constant characters (with the possible exception of size) by which it may be separated from that species; the head, as a rule, shows greenish reflections, while the Lesser Scaup Duck generally has the head glossed with purplish, but these characters cannot be always depended upon and the main difference is one of size.

The eggs are described as being pale olive buff and number from six to ten. It nests on the ground, as is common with the Sea Ducks.

The only duck that this common bird is likely to be confounded with is the Ring-neck, and it can always be distinguished at a glance from that species by the white band on the wing (speculum), which is always gray in the Ring-neck.

AYTHYA AFFINIS (*Eyt.*).

Lesser Scaup Duck.

Male: Resembles the male of the preceding species but is somewhat smaller in size; the head generally shows a faint gloss of purplish, while the Greater Scaup Duck shows a greenish tinge on the head.

Length, 17; Wing, 8.10; Tarsus, 1.50; Bill, 1.80.

The female resembles the female of the preceding species but varies in being smaller; the **speculum** of both the male and female is white, and this duck may always be distinguished from the Ring-neck by this character.

Length, 16.50; Wing, 7.70; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.50.

This bird ranges throughout North America, breeding north of the United States, and occurs in winter south to Guatemala and West Indies. It is the most common species in Florida, being one of the first to arrive and among the last to leave the State. I have seen small flocks of them in the rivers as late as the first of May. The note of this and the Greater Scaup Duck is a peculiar sound, difficult to describe but rather easy to imitate. It somewhat resembles the sound made by rubbing the finger quickly and lightly over a roll-top desk.

AYTHYA COLLARIS (*Donov.*).

Ring-necked Duck.

Adult male: Head and neck, upper breast and upper back black, showing faint bluish reflections when held in the light. In the breeding season the male has an orange chestnut collar which is usually lacking later in the season; belly white with the lower belly finely lined

with black; back and scapulars dusky; **speculum gray**; bill dusky, showing a faint bluish gray band near the end.

Adult female: Head brownish, the sides mixed with grayish brown, widening on the cheeks and base of the bill; belly whitish, becoming grayish on the lower portion; bill as in the male.

Length, 17; Wing, 8; Bill, 2.



Aythya collaris (male).



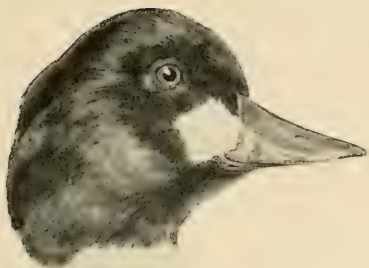
Aythya collaris (female).

Species ranges throughout North America breeding north of the United States. It ranges south in winter to Guatemala and the West Indies. It is common in Florida, generally preferring fresh or brackish water to the ocean.

The female of this species resembles the female Red-head, but is easily distinguished from that species by its smaller size. This species may be distinguished in any plumage from the Scaup Ducks by its gray speculum. The note somewhat resembles that of the Scaup Duck. In winter the collar of the male is usually absent or but slightly indicated. This species does not breed on the Atlantic coast.

GENUS *GLAUCIONETTA* STEJN.*GLAUCIONETTA CLANGULA AMERICANA* (Bonap.).

American Golden Eye. Whistler.



(Male.)

Adult male: Head and neck glossy green; a patch of white in front of the eye; back black; under parts white; speculum white; lining of the wings dusky.

Length, 19.50; Wing, 9.10; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, 1.90.

Adult female: Head brown showing no white in front of the eye; upper parts dark brown inclining to dusky but not black; under parts white, sometimes washed with gray on the sides and lower neck.

Length, 16.50; Wing, 8.25; Tarsus, 1.40; Bill, 1.60.

This species ranges generally throughout North America, breeding from Maine to the British Provinces northward. It winters from New England southward and stragglers have been secured as far south as Barbadoes and Cuba. It is not a common bird in Florida, although the species occur more or less regularly on the Indian River during the winter months. Its nest is placed in a tree or hollow stump. The eggs are usually from eight to ten in number and dull bluish white.

GENUS *CHARITONETTA* STEJN.*CHARITONETTA ALBEOLA* (Linn.).

Buffle-head. Butter-ball. Spirit Duck.



(Female.)

Adult male: A very small duck; **head, upper neck, and throat greenish purple** showing various reflections of bluish and greenish; **a white patch on the head** from the eye backwards; back black; under parts white; bill lead color; feet flesh color.

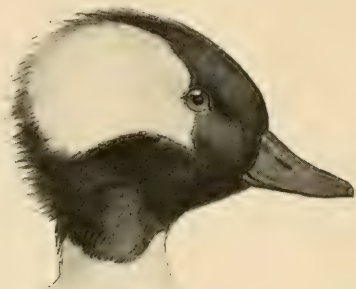
Length, 12.75; Wing, 6; Tarsus, 1.20; Bill, 1.

Adult female: Head and upper parts brownish, showing a grayish white patch on the side of the head, back, and above the eye; under parts white, speculum white.

Length, 12.50; Wing, 5.75; Tarsus, 1.20; Bill, 1.

It ranges throughout North America, south in winter to Cuba and Mexico, breeding northward

from Maine to Alaska. The nest is described as being built in a stump or tree. The eggs are a pale buff usually from eight to twelve in number.



Charitonetta albeola (male).

GENUS CLANGULA LEACH.

CLANGULA HYEMALIS (*Linn.*).

Old Squaw. Old Wife. South Southerly.

Adult male in winter: Central **tail feathers black, much elongated**; outer tail feathers white; top of the head and back of the neck to back white; a patch of grayish on the sides of the head including the eye, which is succeeded by a patch of black on the sides of the neck, bordered on the lower throat by an indication of brown; throat and upper breast pure white; breast and upper belly black, the black continuing over the back in a band; lower belly and under tail coverts white; wing coverts black; quills brown; a pale yellowish band across the end of the bill.



(Male, winter plumage.)

Male in summer: Front of the head white; rest of head, neck, breast, and upper belly smoky black.

Adult female in winter: Head dull white on the crown and a patch on the side of the back of the head smoky black or brownish black; upper parts fuscous; breast grayish; belly white; tail feathers pointed but not elongated as in the male.

Length (including tail), 21; Wing, 8.05; Bill, 1.

It ranges throughout the Northern Hemisphere; in North America south to the Potomac and the Ohio; it breeds far northward. (A.O.U.)

The eggs are described as being pale bluish and usually from six to twelve in number.

This is one of our most common ducks on the New England coast in fall and winter. It ranges south as far as Florida, but is not common, although I have occasionally taken specimens on the Banana River. In the winter of 1894-5 there were a number of these birds at Lake Worth.

GENUS *OIDEMIA* FLEMING.

SUBGENUS *OIDEMIA*.

OIDEMIA AMERICANA Sw. & Rich.

American Scoter. Black Coot.



(Male)



(Female.)

Adult male: **General plumage entirely black; bill black, the upper mandible being yellowish orange at the base. Feathers on the bill more than one half an inch from the nostril; no white on the wing.**

Adult female: Brownish or sooty brown; paler on the under parts, becoming grayish white on the belly; sides of the head whitish. The female is smaller than the male.

Length, 19; Wing, 9.10; Tarsus, 1.65; Bill, 1.80.

Species breeds from Labrador northward; the eggs being described as pale brown or dull whitish brown and from six to ten in number. It ranges

in winter south to Florida and California. I have killed specimens on the Indian River and saw it at Lake Worth, although it cannot be considered as a common bird in Florida every year, probably occurring there in numbers only when the northern winters are unusually severe.

SUBGENUS **MELANITTA** BOIE.



(Male.)



(Female.)

OIDEA DEGLANDI Bonap.

White-winged Scoter. White-winged Coot.

Adult male: General **plumage black**; *upper* mandible orange, blackish at the base; a white spot under the eye and a broad patch of **white on the wing**; **feathers on the bill less than one half inch from the nostril.**

Adult female: Is grayish brown, showing a wash of grayish white at the base of the bill and behind the ears; the **speculum is white**, which is a distinguishing character of this species.

Length, 21; Wing, 11.15; Tarsus, 2; Bill (culmen), 1.75; side measure, 2.75.

It breeds from Labrador northward, ranging in winter South to Florida and California. I found it on the Banana River and Lake Worth during the winter of 1894-5.

The eggs are described as being buff or cream color, six to ten in number, the nest being placed on the ground.

SUBGENUS } PELIONETTA KAUP.



(Male.)



(Female.)

OIDEMIA PERSPICILLATA (Linn.).

Surf Scoter. Sea Coot.

Adult male: **General plumage black, no white on the wing; head black with a white patch on the forehead and nape: feathers on the bill less than one half inch from the nostril.** A peculiar highly colored bill is one of the distinguishing marks of the male of this species, it being orange, yellow, black, and white, the feathers on the top of the bill extending much farther forward than on the sides.

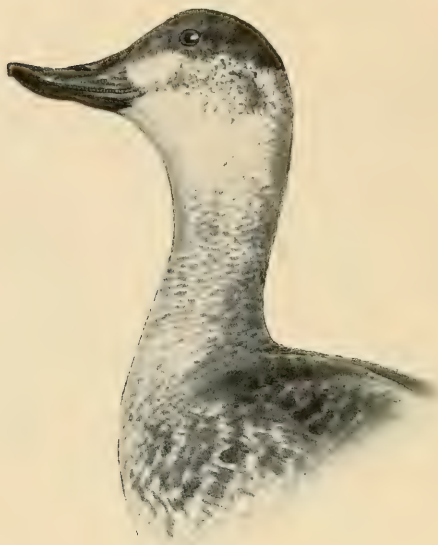
The female and immature brownish, showing a whitish spot at the base of the bill and back of the eyes; the female having the upper parts brownish; under parts ashy gray shading into whitish on the belly.

Length, 20.50; Wing, 9.60; Tarsus, 1.65; Bill (culmen), 1.50; side measure, 2.35.

This species may always be distinguished from *O. americana* by the forward extension of the feathers on the top of the bill and from *O. deglandi* by the absence of the white wing patch. It ranges along the coast of Northern North America and southward in winter to Florida and has been recorded from Jamaica. In the winter of 1894-5 it was common about Lake Worth but is usually not numerous in Florida.

The eggs are described as being buffy or dull white and five to eight in number.

GENUS ERISMATURA BONAP.

ERISMATURA RUBIDA (*Wils.*).**Ruddy Duck.**

Adult male: A patch of **white on the cheeks** and chin; rest of head and **general plumage chestnut brown**; the under parts silver white; tail feathers pointed and stiff. Male in winter has the back of the head and neck smoky brown; cheeks white; the bill bluish and the feet lead color.

Adult female: The general color of the upper parts is brownish gray; sides of the head and throat whitish, shading into gray on the lower throat and upper breast; under parts silver white, as in the male.

Length, 15.30; Wing, 6; Tarsus, 1.20; Bill, 1.50.

It may easily be distinguished from other species by its small size, chestnut brown color, and stiff pointed tail feathers.

It ranges throughout North America, breeding locally nearly throughout its range. It ranges in winter south to Cuba and Guatemala and Northern South America: it has been recorded from many of the West India Islands.

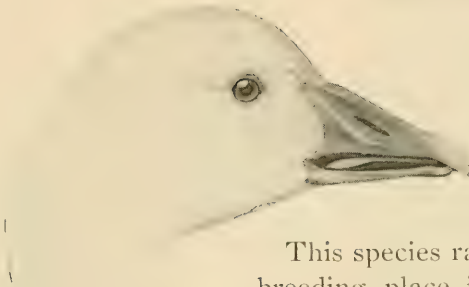
The eggs are described as six to ten in number, of dull white or buffy white, and the nest is usually built on a marsh but is sometimes deposited on floating vegetable matter.

SUBFAMILY ANSERINÆ. GEESE.

GENUS CHEN BOIE.

CHEN HYPERBOREA NIVALIS (*Forst.*).

Greater Snow Goose.



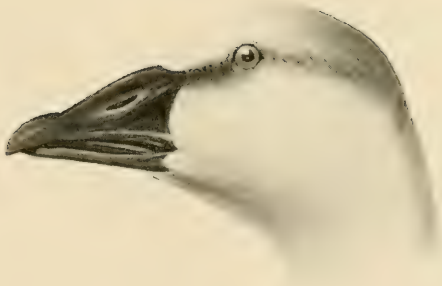
General plumage white; primaries black and primary coverts pale ash. The immature bird has the head, neck, and upper parts mottled gray and white; the rump and tail are white; under parts white.

Length, 34; Wing, 17.40; Bill, 2.50; Tarsus, 3.10.

This species ranges throughout North America. Its breeding place is unknown, but is probably in the far North. It ranges in winter south to the Greater Antilles. It is not a common bird in Florida, but specimens occasionally occur there. It has been taken in Key West and a number of times on the west coast.

CHEN CÆRULESCENS (*Linn.*).

Blue Goose.



Head and neck white or buff; dusky gray on the neck and back, shading into whitish on the under parts; wings ashy gray, the rump and upper tail coverts grayish white or white; some of the quills and tail feathers dusky, showing white on the edges; primaries are black.

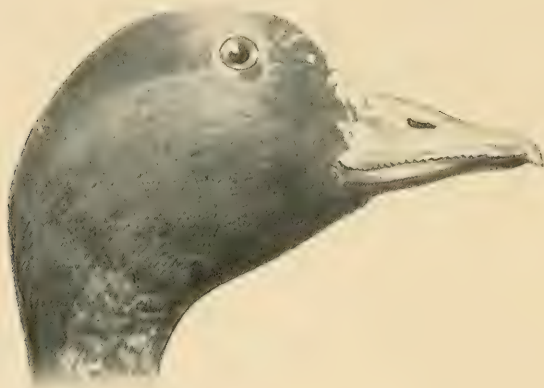
The immature bird of this species has the head and neck grayish brown, shading into dull white on the chin.

Length, 30; Wing, 16; Bill, 2.20; Tarsus, 3.10.

The habits of this species are but little known, and for a long time it was supposed to be the young of the Snow Goose.

It is now recognized as a species, although comparatively nothing is known of its habits or range. It has been taken in Cuba and I have been told that a specimen was killed on the west coast, but I could not learn the exact locality. I know of no positive record of its occurrence in Florida, but it is probably an accidental winter visitant.

GENUS **ANSER** BRISSON.



ANSER ALBIFRONS GAMBELI (*Hartl.*).

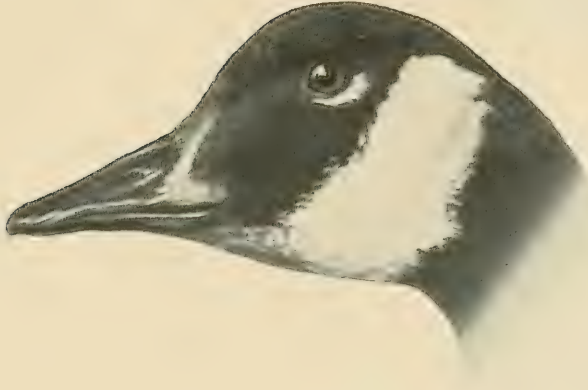
American White-fronted Goose.

Adult: Forehead and base of bill white; bill pinkish or reddish or pale white; feet yellow; the rest of the head brownish; neck grayish brown, shading into dull white in front; under parts whitish, the breast showing black markings; back ashy gray; the feathers anteriorly edged with brown on the upper part; shafts of quills white.

The immature bird is similar, but shows no white on the base of the bill or black markings on the breast.

Length, 28; Wing, 16; Bill, 2; Tarsus, 2.90.

This species occurs throughout North America, breeding far North and ranging in winter south to Mexico and Cuba. It is rather rare on the Atlantic coast, but I have been told that specimens have been taken in North-western Florida, although I have never seen a bird of this species in Florida myself. Eggs are five to seven, of pale greenish color, sometimes brownish.

GENUS *BRANTA* SCOPOLI.*BRANTA CANADENSIS* (Linn.).

Canada Goose.

Adult: Head and neck black; a patch of white on the side of the head behind the eye extending to the chin; back and wings grayish brown; breast and under parts dull grayish white, becoming white on the belly; tail black.

The immature bird is similar, but has the throat and cheeks sometimes mottled.

Length, 40; Wing, 19; Bill, 2.50; Tarsus, 3.20.

The Canada Goose ranges throughout temperate North America, breeding in Northern United States and the British Provinces. It ranges in winter south to Mexico and Jamaica. It occasionally occurs in Florida in winter, as specimens have been killed on the Indian River and also in Northwestern Florida.

The nest, which is composed of sticks and grass lined with feathers, is built in the marshes and on borders of streams; it is claimed that sometimes the nest is placed in a tree. At one time it bred commonly on the Magdalen Islands. The eggs are four or five, usually brownish white.

BRANTA BERNICLA (*Linn.*).**Brant.**

Whole of head, neck, and upper breast black, except a patch on the sides of the neck, which is white and black; back grayish brown; longer tail coverts white; lower breast grayish, shading into white on the belly.

Length, 25; Wing, 13; Tarsus, 2.25; Bill, 1.30.

Ranges from Arctic Circle, where it breeds, southward to Georgia and occasionally to Florida, several having been killed on the Florida coast.

The eggs are described as creamy white in color, four in number. The nest is composed of grass and moss.

SUBFAMILY CYGNINÆ. SWANS.

GENUS **OLOR** WAGLER.**OLOR COLUMBIANUS** (*Ord*).**Whistling Swan.**

General plumage white; bill and feet black; a small yellow spot at the base of the bill in front of the eye which is not always present; the distance from the front angle of the eye to the back edge of the nostril is more than the distance from the back edge of the nostril to the end of the bill; this is one of the characters by which it may be distinguished from the Trumpeter Swan.

The immature birds are usually ashy gray in color with a brownish wash on the head and upper neck; feet pale yellowish, sometimes pale flesh color.

Length, 53; Wing, 21.50; Bill, 4; Tarsus, 4.20.

This species ranges throughout most of North America, breeding in the far North. It is common in winter on the Atlantic coast about the Carolinas

and Virginia, and occasionally wanders as far south as Florida. I know of one or two instances where it has been seen, and a specimen was killed and brought into Jacksonville in the winter of 1894-5.

ORDER ODONTOGLOSSÆ.

LAMELLIROSTRAL GRALLATORES.

FAMILY PHŒNICOPTERIDÆ. FLAMINGOES.

GENUS PHŒNICOPTERUS LINN.

PHŒNICOPTERUS RUBER *Linn.*

American Flamingo.

Adult male: Entire plumage scarlet; most of the primaries black; legs lake red; terminal half of the bill black; basal half of lower mandible orange. The female and immature males are lighter colored and paler.

Length, 52; Wing, 17; Tail, 6.50; Tarsus, 12.50; Bill, 5.25.

This species occurs on the coast of tropical and sub-tropical America. It is a resident in Florida, although seldom seen there. At one time it was abundant but is now only to be found in one or two localities. East of Cape Sable there was quite a colony of them, but the place is very difficult of access and they are very shy. This species is still abundant in the Bahama Islands, where I found it breeding. It lays two chalky-white eggs. The nest, which is constructed of mud, is shaped like a sugar-loaf slightly hollowed on the top, and usually from about 14 inches to 20 inches in height.



ORDER HERODIONES.

HERONS, STORKS, IBISES, ETC.

SUBORDER IBIDES.

SPOONBILLS AND IBISES.

FAMILY PLATALEIDÆ. SPOONBILLS.

GENUS AJAJA REICH.

**AJAJA AJAJA** (*Lin.*).**Roseate Spoonbill.**

Back and wings a delicate rose white; under parts showing rose color; bare skin of the head greenish and yellow; bill widened at the tip, somewhat spoon-shaped but flat, tinted with greenish and yellowish; legs dull red. Very old birds have the lesser wing coverts and upper tail coverts brilliant carmine red.

The immature bird has general plumage pale pinkish white with no red on the lesser wing coverts.

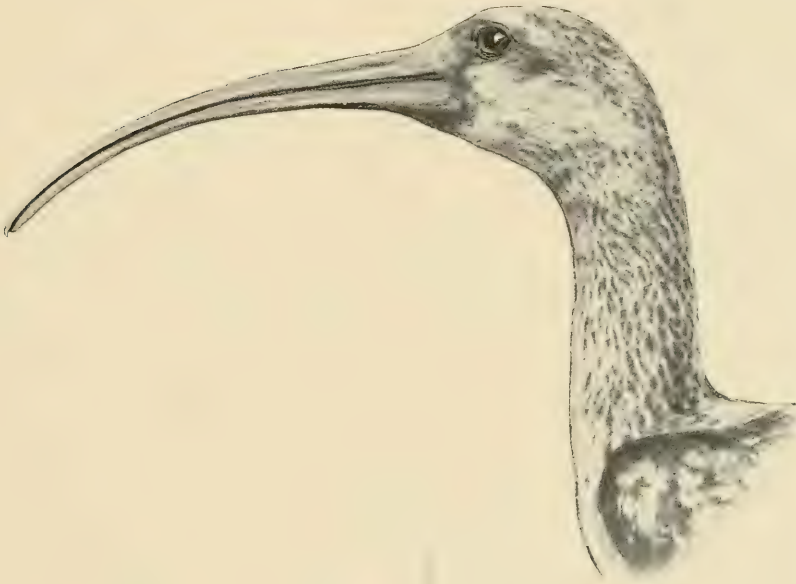
Length, 31; Wing, 15; Tarsus, 4.10; Bill, 6.30.

This species occurs in South America from the West Indies north to Florida and the Gulf States. It breeds in Florida, where it is known as "Pink Curlew," the nest being placed in mangrove bushes or low trees.

The eggs are usually four or five, being white and marked with olive brown. The bird is common on the Bahama Islands.

FAMILY IBIDIDÆ. IBISES.

GENUS GUARA REICH.



Guara alba (immature).

GUARA ALBA (*Linn.*).

White Ibis.

General plumage white, with the four outer primaries tipped with black; the bare skin on the head is reddish orange. The immature bird is sometimes brown and white; sometimes gray, brown, and white, having the under parts white, and still younger birds are brown with a white

rump and gray or grayish brown tail; the **rump is always white**, never brown, as in the young of the Scarlet Ibis. There is a great difference in size of individuals.

Adult: Length, 26; Wing, 11.25; Bill, 6.30.



Guara alba (adult).

Ranges throughout tropical America and is claimed to have been found breeding as far north as Illinois and South Carolina, and it has been taken as far north as Long Island. It is a common species in Florida, where it breeds. The nest is a mass of grass and weeds placed in bushes and sometimes in trees. The eggs are usually from four to five, and greenish white in color marked with chocolate brown.

GUARA RUBRA (*Linn.*).

Scarlet Ibis.

Adult: General **plumage scarlet**; tips of the outer primaries black; bare skin of the head, bill, and legs red.

The immature are mixed brownish gray, pale on the under parts, having the rump brownish like the back.

The immature of this species may be easily distinguished from the immature of the White Ibis by the color of the rump.

Adult: Length, 28; Wing, 11; Bill, 6.50.

This species has but a very slight claim to be included among our birds. I know of no positive record of its capture in the United States. Audubon claimed to have seen this species in Louisiana but did not procure a specimen.

Dr. Coues examined a fragment of a specimen taken near Los Pinos, New Mexico, in June, 1864, and Mr. Brewster records a specimen in the museum at Charleston, S. C., which is labelled "Florida," and which he believes quite possibly might be an authentic specimen. [N.O. C., Vol. VIII., page 185, 1883.]

This species has been recorded from Cuba and Jamaica but is a native of tropical America.

GENUS PLEGADIS KAUP.



PLEGADIS AUTUMNALIS (*Hasselt.*).

Glossy Ibis.

Adult: General plumage chestnut; wing coverts, back and front of head showing greenish and sometimes bronzy reflections.

The immature birds have the plumage more brownish and the front of the head slightly mottled; the back greenish; under parts dusky brown.

Length, 25; Wing, 11.25; Bill, 5.40.

Tropical America, not common in the United States. It occurs in Florida and has been taken in the West Indies. Specimens have occasionally been taken in summer as far north as Massachusetts. It has been recorded from Cambridge and I have a specimen in my collection which was shot at Eastham, Mass. The eggs are described as dull blue in color and are usually three in number.

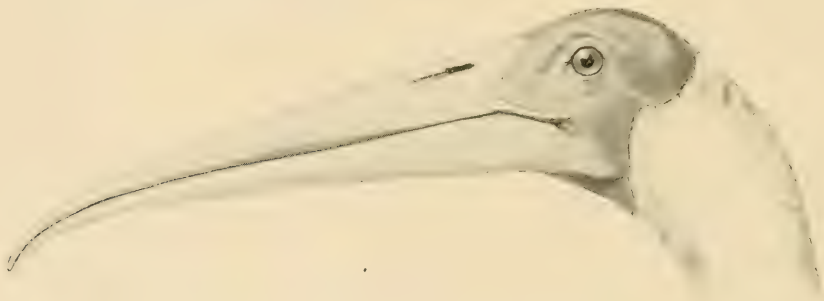
PLEGADIS GUARAUNA (*Linn.*).**White-faced Glossy Ibis.**

Head chestnut, having a white patch on forehead, chin and bordering the bare space in front of the eye. Under parts purplish chestnut; upper part of back and wings showing metallic tints of purple, violet, and green; primaries greenish, showing a bronze luster; rump and upper tail coverts and tail greenish with purplish reflections.

Length, 25; Wing, 11; Bill, 5.50.

This species ranges throughout Western United States, south through Central America to South America, and has been recorded from the West Indies. It is a rare bird on the east coast, a single specimen having been found breeding near Lake Washington, Florida. [Brewster, Auk III., 1886, page 482.]

This species may be distinguished from the Glossy Ibis by the white at the base of the bill. It builds its nest in swamps, sometimes on bushes; the eggs are bluish.

SUBORDER CICONIÆ.**STORKS, ETC.****FAMILY CICONIIDÆ. STORKS AND WOOD IBISES.****SUBFAMILY TANTALINÆ. WOOD IBISES.****GENUS TANTALUS LINN.****TANTALUS LOCULATOR** *Linn.***Wood Ibis.**

Adult: Having the head and neck bare; general plumage white; primaries, secondaries, and tail greenish black.

The immature bird has the head feathered and the plumage grayish on the head and sometimes grayish white on the body.

Length, 41; Wing, 18.50; Tarsus, 8.20; Bill, 9.20.

Ranges throughout Southern United States, wandering occasionally as far north as Pennsylvania and New York, and southward to Cuba, Jamaica, and South America. This species is common in Florida, where it breeds. It builds a large rough nest of sticks, which is placed in a tree. The eggs are usually three; they are white, and covered with a chalky deposit.

SUBORDER HERODII.

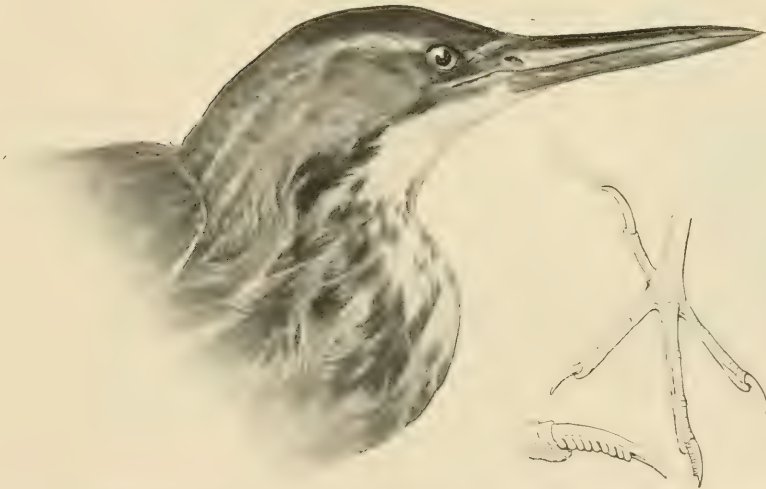
HERONS, EGRETS, BITTERNS, ETC.

FAMILY ARDEIDÆ. HERONS, BITTERNS, ETC.

SUBFAMILY BOTAURINÆ. BITTERNS.

GENUS **BOTAURUS** HERMANN.

SUBGENUS **BOTAURUS**.



BOTAURUS LENTIGINOSUS (*Montag.*).

American Bittern.

Upper parts brown; wing coverts edged and mottled with tawny and buff and washed with ashy; top of the head and nape slaty with black streak on sides of the upper neck; neck and

under parts tawny white; feathers edged with dusky and dull brown; legs greenish yellow; a loral stripe of dark brown; bill yellowish with a dark streak at the top.

Length, 27; Wing, 11.50; Bill, 3; Tarsus, 3.40.

The female is smaller than the male and the bird varies very much in size.

It ranges throughout temperate North America and is common on the Atlantic coast, breeding, as a rule, north of North Carolina. It ranges in winter south to Central America and the West Indies, being common in Florida in some localities.

The eggs are usually from three to five in number, grayish brown in color.

GENUS ARDETTA GRAY.

ARDETTA EXILIS (Gmel.).

Least Bittern.



Adult male: Crown of the head black, extending into a small crest; back and tail black with a greenish tinge back of the neck; wing coverts chestnut brown; some of the wing coverts tawny yellow; *front and sides of the neck and under parts yellowish brown, showing white on throat*; a patch of brownish black on the sides of the breast; bill yellowish, dusky on the top; legs green, yellow on the back; toes yellow.

Adult female: Having the back and crown purplish chestnut instead of black.

Length, 12.50; Wing, 4.50; Bill, 2; Tarsus, 2.10.

This species ranges from temperate North America southward to the West Indies and Northern South America.

It breeds along the Atlantic coast nearly throughout its range. It is common in Florida where it breeds, being very abundant in some localities.

The nest is placed in a bunch of reeds or rushes, sometimes on small bushes.

The eggs are from four to six, pale bluish white. I have found as many as a dozen nests of this species within a distance of fifty yards on some of the small Florida ponds, but it seems to be local, as many ponds in the same locality, seemingly equally suitable, did not contain a single individual.

ARDETTA NEOXENA *Cory.*

Cory's Bittern.*



Top of the head, back, and tail dark greenish black, showing a green gloss when held in the light. *Sides of the head and throat rufous chestnut*; the feathers on the back of the neck showing greenish black tips; breast and under parts nearly uniform chestnut, shading into dull black on the sides; wing coverts dark rufous chestnut; all the remiges entirely slaty plumbeous; under tail coverts dull black.

Wing, 4.30; Tarsus, 1.40; Bill, 1.80.

This interesting little Bittern was described by me in 1886 from a specimen taken in the Everglades of Florida. Since then a dozen or more specimens have been secured, most of them from Florida, but one was taken near Toronto, and another in Michigan. It is probably not uncommon in some localities, but its retiring disposition makes it seem rare, as it is seldom seen.

SUBFAMILY ARDEINÆ. HERONS AND EGRETS.

GENUS ARDEA LINN.

SUBGENUS ARDEA.

ARDEA OCCIDENTALIS *Aud.*

Great White Heron.



Adult: General plumage *entirely white*; bill yellow; upper part of the leg near the feathers, and soles of the feet yellow; the lower part of the leg from the knee to the foot (tarsus) yellow.

Length about 50; Wing about 18.50 to 20; Bill, 6.50; Tarsus, 8.50.

* When I described this bird in 1886 I gave it no English name, simply calling it *neoxena* (new and strange). The committee of the American Ornithologists' Union have since done me the honor of giving it my name.

This species is resident in Florida, occurring most commonly in the southern part of the State. It has been recorded from Cuba and Jamaica. It is not common now and is becoming less so every year. The birds breed in colonies, the nest being a mass of sticks placed in mangrove trees. The eggs are usually from three to four, pale bluish in color.

ARDEA WÜERDEMANNI *Baird.*

Würdemann's Heron.

Adult: Head and upper neck white, the forehead showing blackish edges to the feathers and faint streaks of black on the back of the head; neck grayish purple; rest of plumage somewhat resembling the Great Blue Heron, but the markings are paler.

Size about the same as *Ardea occidentalis*.

This bird is probably merely a color phase of *occidentalis*. It is nowhere common and is seen so seldom that it is doubtful if its true standing will ever be known; still the preponderance of opinion among naturalists seems to be that it is simply a color phase of *occidentalis* and should not be recognized as a species. Nearly all of the specimens now in collections have been taken on the southwestern coast of Florida.

ARDEA WARDI *Ridgw.*

Ward's Heron.

Adult: Similar to the Great Blue Heron but somewhat larger, especially the bill. The legs are olive instead of black, as a rule; bill usually yellow, dusky on the top, as a rule, but sometimes entirely yellow.

Wing, 20.50; Tarsus, 8.75; Bill, 6.50 to 7.

This species seems to be restricted to Florida; it breeds in communities, the eggs being apparently of the same color as those of the northern Blue Heron.

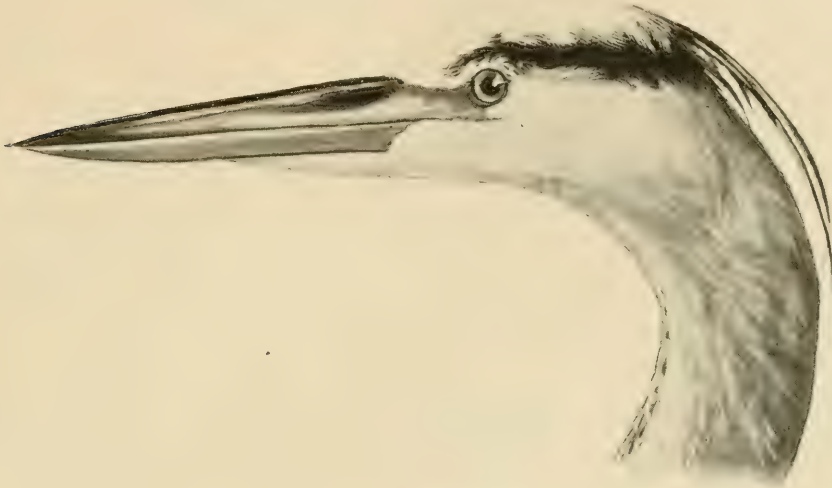
ARDEA HERODIAS *Linn.*

Great Blue Heron.

Crest lengthened; bill yellow, dark brown on top; legs and feet dark brown; soles of the feet yellow; a streak from the forehead to the middle of the crown white; sides of the crown and crest feathers black; neck grayish purple mixed with black and white; chin and part of the cheeks whitish, extending in a tawny line on the throat; neck plumes; belly black streaked with

white; back and upper parts bluish slate or gray. The immature birds show a great variety of color in the plumage.

Length, 48; Wing, 20; Tail, 7; Tarsus, 6.50; Bill, 5.50.



Ardea herodias.

It ranges throughout North America from the far North southward to the West Indies and South America. It is supposed to breed on the Atlantic coast from Florida northward, although I have never seen this species in Florida in the breeding season.

The nest, which is built in a tree, is a large affair composed of sticks. The eggs are from three to four in number and pale blue.

SUBGENUS **HERODIAS** BOIE.

ARDEA EGRETTE *Gmel.*

American Egret.

Adult: Entire plumage white, having in the breeding season long graceful plumes on the back, which extend beyond the tail; bill yellow; legs and feet black; lores pale orange edged with greenish.

Length, 38; Wing, 16; Tarsus, 5.80; Bill, 4.80.

This species ranges throughout tropical and temperate America, having been taken on the Atlantic coast as far north as New Jersey and Nova

Scotia. It is a common species in Florida, where it is ruthlessly shot for its plumes. It breeds in colonies. The nest is a mass of sticks built in bushes or small trees. The eggs are from three to five in number and pale blue in color.



Ardea egretta.

SUBGENUS **GARZETTA** KAUP.

ARDEA CANDIDISSIMA *Gmel.*

Snowy Heron. White Egret.



Ardea candidissima.

Adult: Entire plumage pure white, having in the breeding season extended plumes on the back and also feathers on the crest lengthened; bill black, becoming yellowish at the base; lores yellow; legs black; feet yellow.

Length, 22; Wing, 11; Tarsus, 3.50; Bill, 3.

This species ranges throughout tropical and temperate America as far south as Buenos Ayres, South America. It is very common in Florida, where it breeds, and has been known to breed as far north as Long Island. Stragglers have been taken in Nova Scotia.

The eggs are three to five in number and pale blue, as in most of this family.

This species is sometimes confounded with the immature of the Florida Blue Heron, which is also white, but that species has a faint wash of grayish on the tips of the primaries. Besides having the primaries perfectly white without any wash near the tips, this species has the legs black, which in the immature of the Florida Blue Heron are greenish yellow.

SUBGENUS **DICHROMANASSA** RIDGW.

ARDEA RUFESCENS Gmel.

Reddish Egret.



(Colored phase.)

Adult in colored phase: Head and neck lilac brown; rest of plumage dark slate color. This species has the long plumes extending from the scapular region of the back during the breeding season; legs and feet bluish, showing dusky on the scales of the tarsus. Bill black on the terminal third, the balance flesh color; lores flesh color.

White phase: Entire plumage white; bill black on the terminal third; balance flesh color; legs greenish.

Length, 29; Wing, 14; Tail, 4; Tarsus, 5.30; Bill, 3.90.



(White phase.)

For a long time the white phase of this species was considered to be distinct and was known as Peal's Egret. There can be no doubt as to its merely being a different phase of plumage and not a distinct species, as the young birds, both white and colored, have been taken from the same nest.

It usually breeds in Florida, the nest being built on the lower branches of a mangrove tree close to the water. I found this bird breeding in the Bahama Islands, and on June 25, 1879, took a white and a gray bird from the same nest, neither of them being old enough to fly.

The eggs are usually from 3 to 4 in number, being pale blue in color.

SUBGENUS **HYDRANASSA** BAIRD.

ARDEA TRICOLOR RUFICOLLIS (*Gosse*).

Louisiana Heron.

Adult male in breeding plumage: Terminal third of bill black, balance blue; lores blue in winter; bill black, yellowish at base; general plumage slaty blue; crest streaked reddish purple,

mixed with dull white; throat white, mixed with reddish brown and purple, heaviest on the lower part, forming a stripe continuing down the front of the neck; under parts white; under tail coverts slightly edged with bluish; legs yellowish green; iris red.

Length, 25; Wing, 10.50; Tail, 3.50; Tarsus, 4; Bill, 4.



Ardea tricolor ruficollis.

Is common in the Gulf States, extending to Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies, accidental northward to New Jersey.

It is a common species in Florida, breeding in bushes near water. The eggs are usually four or five, pale blue in color.

SUBGENUS **FLORIDA** BAIRD.**ARDEA CÆRULEA** Linn.**Little Blue Heron.**

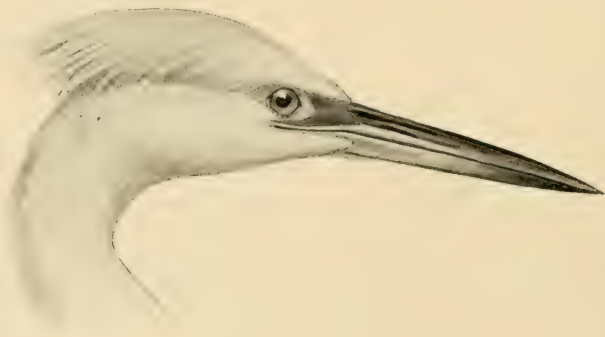
(Adult.)

Adult: Head and neck purplish red or maroon, rest of plumage grayish blue; bill black at the end; basal portion and loral space blue; legs and feet black.

Immature birds are pure white, except a faint wash of grayish blue near the tip of the primaries; legs olive or yellowish and the basal half of the bill greenish.

This species is sometimes confounded with the Snowy Egret, but may easily be distinguished from that species by the slight wash of blue on the ends of the primaries and by the color of the legs and bill.

Length about 23; Wing, 11; Tarsus, 3.60.



(Immature.)

It ranges in winter from the Southern United States to the West Indies and South America; north in summer accidentally to New England.

It breeds in Florida, building a nest of sticks in bushes and small trees, usually over water. The eggs are three to four in number and pale blue.

SUBGENUS **BUTORIDES** BLYTH.



Ardea virescens.

ARDEA VIRESCENS *Linn.*

Little Green Heron.

Top of the head extending in a small crest dark green; neck chestnut; throat marked heavily with white; under parts pale purplish or ashy marked with white; back greenish, showing tinge of slate color; wing coverts green, feathers edged with buffy white; bend of wing whitish; tail greenish, upper mandible black; lower mandible mostly yellow, dark on the top; legs yellowish green.

Length, 16 inches; Wing, 6.50; Tail, 2.40; Tarsus, 1.85; Bill, 2.30.

This species ranges from Canada southward to South America and the West Indies, being common and breeding throughout most of its range on the Atlantic coast. It is common in Florida, where it breeds.

The nest is usually placed on a branch of a tree overhanging water. The eggs are pale blue, usually four to six in number.

GENUS **NYCTICORAX** STEPHENS.SUBGENUS **NYCTICORAX**.**NYCTICORAX NYCTICORAX NÆVIUS** (*Bodd.*).**Black-crowned Night Heron.**

Crown, head, back, and scapulars greenish black; forehead, lores, most of the neck and under parts white or ashy white. Wings and tail gray; legs and feet yellow; two or three very long occipital plumes, white, in the breeding season.

Length, 24 to 26; Wing, 11; Tarsus, 3.10 to 3.40; Tail, 4.20 to 5.30.

The immature bird has the general plumage mottled dark brown and gray, the feathers marked and streaked with pointed blotches of grayish or buff; outer web of primaries buff color; under parts streaked with black and white.

This species occurs on the Atlantic coast from Canada to South America and has been recorded from the West Indies. It is common in Florida. The nest is a mass of sticks generally built in trees or low bushes, rarely on the ground. All the nests that I personally have found have been built in trees or bushes. The eggs are four to six in number and pale blue.



Nycticorax nycticorax naevius (immature).

SUBGENUS **NYCTHERODIUS** REICH.

NYCTICORAX VIOLACEUS (*Linn.*).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron.



(Adult.)

Top of the head whitish buff extending into a crest; sides of the head black; throat black; breast and under parts grayish plumbeous; back plumbeous; two or three very long feathers extending as long plumes from the crest; legs greenish.

Length, about 23; Wing, 13.20; Tail, 4; Tarsus, 3.70; Bill, 2.60.

Immature birds have the crown dusky streaked with white or buffy white, the rest of the plumage heavily mottled, blotched with pointed marks of brown; also marked with buff and dull white. **Primaries slate color**, showing no rufous. The immature birds of this species somewhat resemble those of the Black-crowned Night Heron, but differ from it, having the head darker and no rufous on the primaries.

This species occurs in Eastern North America from the Carolinas south to South America and the West Indies. It has been recorded as far north as Massachusetts. It breeds commonly in Florida. The nest is built in trees, and the eggs are four or five in number and pale blue.

ORDER PALUDICOLÆ.

CRANES, RAILS, ETC.

SUBORDER GRUES.

CRANES.

FAMILY GRUIDÆ. CRANES.

GENUS GRUS PALLAS.

GRUS AMERICANA (*Linn.*).

Whooping Crane.

Adult: Bare part of the head hairy; plumage white; primaries black; bill greenish; legs black; bare skin on the head carmine red. The immature birds have the head feathered and the general plumage brownish gray.

Length, 52; Wing, 23.50; Tail, 8.40; Bill, 6.10; Tarsus, 12.

This species is a rare bird on the Atlantic coast, although it was formerly not uncommon and has been recorded from New England. It now inhabits

*Grus americanus.*

the interior of North America from the fur countries south to Texas and Mexico, and is supposed to be occasionally found in Florida. I have never met with it in Florida and it must be considered a rare bird in the State. It breeds from Illinois northward, the eggs being two, pale grayish green, blotched and marked with dark brown.

GRUS MEXICANA (*Müll.*).**Sandhill Crane.***Grus mexicana.*

Adult : Having the bare skin on the top of the head deep red; general plumage brownish gray, sometimes buffy gray on the back; legs black.

Length, 46; Wing, 21.50; Tarsus, 10; Bill, 5.30.

This species ranges throughout the southern half of North America, being common in Florida and some parts of Georgia. It breeds commonly in Florida, the nest being a pile of sticks sometimes built in the middle of a shallow pond, and again the bird simply deposits the eggs in some open piece of dry ground with no attempt at a nest. The eggs are two in number, grayish olive marked with dark brown. The note of the Sandhill Crane somewhat resembles the sounds made by the blocks when hoisting sail on a vessel.

SUBORDER RALLI.

RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS, ETC.

FAMILY ARAMIDÆ. COURLANS.

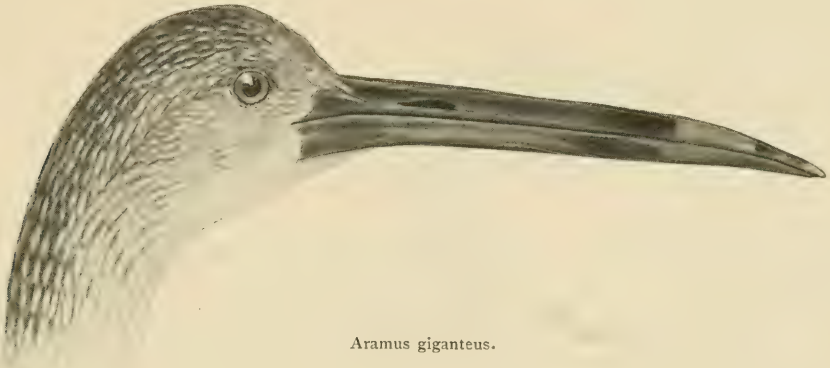
GENUS ARAMUS VIEILL.

ARAMAS GIGANTEUS (*Bonap.*).

Limpkin.

General plumage dark olive brown striped with white, the stripes on the body being much heavier than those on the head and neck; wing and tail showing bronzy reflections when held in the light; under mandible slightly twisted near the tip.

Length, 27.50; Wing, 13; Tarsus, 4.35; Bill, 4.50.



Aramus giganteus.

This species occurs in Florida on the Atlantic coast and Central America and in many of the West Indies.

It is resident and breeds in Florida, the nest being composed of leaves and twigs, which is placed in a tree or bush near a river or in a swamp. The eggs are from five to seven in number and buffy white marked with dark brown. At one time it was a very abundant species, but is now seldom seen except in the less inhabited districts. It eats the land-snails which are so abundant in the cypress ponds on the borders of the Everglades.

FAMILY RALLIDÆ. RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS.

SUBFAMILY RALLINÆ. RAILS.

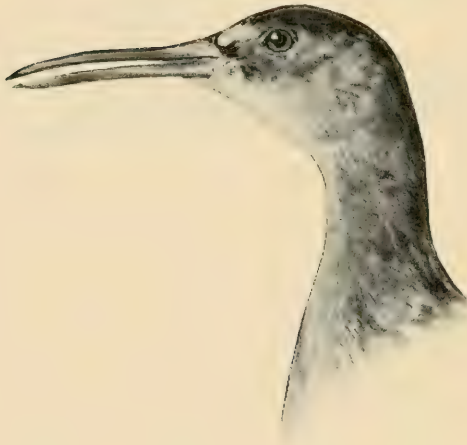
GENUS RALLUS LINN.

RALLUS ELEGANS *Aud.*

King Rail.

Adult: Upper parts dark brown; throat white; breast reddish brown; sides darker barred with white; back and scapulars brownish margined with olive gray; wings and tail dull brown or olive brown; wing coverts rufous brown.

Length, 15.40; Wing, 6.55; Tarsus, 2.25; Bill, 2.50.



Rallus elegans.



Rallus virginianus.

This species inhabits the fresh water marshes of Eastern United States from New England southward.

It is not uncommon in Florida, where it breeds. The eggs are generally from nine to twelve, pale brownish white, spotted with reddish brown.

RALLUS VIRGINIANUS *Linn.***Virginia Rail.**

Adult: Having somewhat the appearance of a very small King Rail; upper parts are dusky or blackish; feathers edged with grayish brown; wings brownish; under parts dark rufous brown; throat white; lores ashy white, shading into gray on the cheeks; flanks and under tail coverts barred and spotted with white and black.

Length, 9.40; Wing, 4.25; Tarsus, 1.35; Bill, 1.55.

Ranges throughout North America from the British Provinces south to Central America and Cuba. It breeds from New England northward on the Atlantic coast, the nest being made of grass, and the eggs are six to twelve, pale brownish white, spotted with reddish brown.

RALLUS LONGIROSTRIS CREPITANS (*Gmel.*).**Clapper Rail.**

Adult: Upper parts dull olive; feathers edged with gray; throat white; breast pale grayish brown; rest of under parts grayish brown barred with white on the sides; wing coverts cinnamon brown tinged with gray.

Length, 14.75; Wing, 5.10; Tarsus, 2.10; Bill, 2.60.

This species differs from the King Rail in being much grayer on the upper parts and paler on the under parts. The Clapper Rail prefers salt water marshes. It ranges on the Atlantic coast from New Jersey southward, but has been recorded from Massachusetts. It is not uncommon in Florida, but is probably replaced in nearly all the Gulf States by the local form, known as Scott's Rail. The nest is a little grass on salt water marshes; eggs are from eight to twelve, pale brownish white spotted with dark brown.

RALLUS LONGIROSTRIS SCOTTII (*Senn.*).

Florida Clapper Rail. Scott's Rail.

Adult: Similar to the preceding species but darker in color and more brownish above; breast rufous brown; flanks blackish. Both this and the Clapper Rail differ from the King Rail in the color of the wing coverts, which are much more highly colored in that species.

Range: Gulf coast of Florida.

GENUS PORZANA VIEILL.

SUBGENUS PORZANA.

PORZANA CAROLINA (*Linn.*).

Sora. Carolina Rail.



Above reddish brown, streaked with black and some of the feathers edged with white; flanks and linings of the wings barred with white and black; abdomen dull white; a stripe of black passing from the bill down the center of the throat but not reaching the breast; whole of the breast, a cheek patch and superciliary line slate color; crown chestnut with a black stripe through the center; carpus edged with white; crissum rufous, shading into whitish.

Length, 7.75; Wing, 4.20; Tail, 2; Tarsus, 1.38; Bill, .75.

Ranges from temperate North America south in winter to Northern South America; it is common in Florida during the migrations. It breeds from Long Island northward; the eggs are from ten to fifteen in number, pale brownish white spotted with dark brown.

SUBGENUS **COTURNICOPS** BONAP.**PORZANA NOVEBORACENSIS** (*Gmel.*).**Yellow Rail.**

Above, streaked with blackish and yellowish brown; feathers barred and mottled with white; under parts yellowish brown, palest on the belly; feathers of the breast tipped with dark brown; under surface of wings white; a pale yellowish brown superciliary stripe.

Length, 6; Wing, 3 to 3.50; Tarsus, .90 to 1.00.

This species ranges from Hudson's Bay to Cuba. It is not uncommon in Florida. I have seen several specimens which have been killed by people while snipe shooting. I have shot two specimens on the marshes bordering the St. John's River. The eggs are described as pale, creamy buff in color, speckled and sprinkled with rusty brown.

SUBGENUS **CRECISCUS** CABANIS.**PORZANA JAMAICENSIS** (*Gmel.*).**Black Rail.**

Top of the head dusky; nape and upper back brownish chestnut; rest of back and upper tail feathers dusky or smoky brown finely barred with white; throat gray or ash gray; belly gray; flanks and lower belly and under tail coverts banded with white; bill black.

Length, 5; Wing, 2.50 to 3.20; Tarsus, .85 to .90.

This species occurs in temperate North America from Massachusetts to the West Indies and South America. It is very retiring in its habits and therefore seldom seen. The eggs are usually ten, being dull white speckled with reddish brown. I have never met with it in Florida, but Mr. W. E. D. Scott records it in his list of the birds of the Caloosahatchie region. (*Auk*, p. 209, 1892.)

SUBFAMILY GALLINULINÆ. GALLINULES.

GENUS IONORNIS REICH.

IONORNIS MARTINICA (Linn.).

Purple Gallinule.



Adult male: Head, neck, and under parts bluish purple, grading into black on the belly; above olive; wing coverts bluish; back olive; crissum white; frontal plate of the bill blue; bill red tipped with yellow; legs yellow.

Length, 11; Wing, 6.50; Tail, 2.65; Tarsus, 2.30.

This species is resident in Florida and has been taken on the Atlantic coast as far north as Maine. Ranges in winter to the

West Indies and Northern South America.

The eggs are eight to ten, pale buffy white, dotted with brownish. The nest is a mat of grass on reeds or in marshes.

GENUS GALLINULA BRISSON.

GALLINULA GALEATA (Licht.).

Florida Gallinule.



Head blackish; bill tipped with green, rest of bill and frontal plate deep red; upper back slaty; lower back and wings olive brown; under parts dark slate color; lower belly grayish; feathers faintly tipped with white; some of the feathers on the sides having the inner webs white near the tip, giving the appearance

of white stripes; under tail coverts black; tail white and black; legs olive green, reddish near the body.

Length, 13; Wing, 6.60; Tail, 3.10; Tarsus, 2; Bill, including frontal shield, 1.75; Bill, from gape, 1.25.



Ranges throughout temperate and tropical America from Canada to South America. It is a common resident in Florida and has been known to breed as far north as Maine. The nest is built in marshes, being a mass of grass or

rushes; the eggs are from eight to thirteen in number, pale brownish white spotted and speckled with brown.

SUBFAMILY FULICINÆ. COOTS.

GENUS FULICA LINN.



Fulica americana.



Fulica americana (foot).

FULICA AMERICANA *Gmel.*

American Coot. Mud-hen.

Adult: General plumage dark slate color; head and neck blackish; bill whitish marked with reddish black on the upper mandible; frontal plate brownish white; legs and feet dark olive, the toes having peculiar semicircular flaps or webs; abdomen grayish; edge of wing and ends of secondaries white.

Length, 14.75; Wing, 7.45; Tail, 2.30; Bill, from front edge of frontal plate, 1.40.

It ranges in North America from New Brunswick south to the West Indies and Central America, being common in Florida, where it is resident.

It breeds in the marshes. The eggs are from eight to fifteen, which are pale brownish white in color and marked with dark chocolate brown.

This species may be easily distinguished from the Gallinule by the peculiar rounded flaps or webs on the toes, and by the different color of the frontal plate.

ORDER LIMICOLÆ.

SHORE BIRDS.

FAMILY PHALAROPODIDÆ. PHALAROPES.

GENUS CRYMOPHILUS VIEILL.

CRYMOPHILUS FULICARIUS (Linn.).

Red Phalarope. Gray Phalarope.



Adult male in summer: General under parts and sides of the neck purplish brown; upper tail coverts purplish brown slightly darker than the under parts; crown of the head and base of the bill smoky black; sides of the head white extending to the nape; rump white; back black; feathers edged with tawny brown; primaries dusky, the shafts being white and the base of the feathers white; some of the secondaries white; bill yellowish brown, dark on the tip; feet dull yellow.

Adult in winter: Head and under parts white, a small patch around the eye and a nuchal crest dusky; the under parts of the body are tinged with ashy gray on the sides; upper parts grayish ash color; wings showing a distinct white bar; bill dusky; feet brownish.

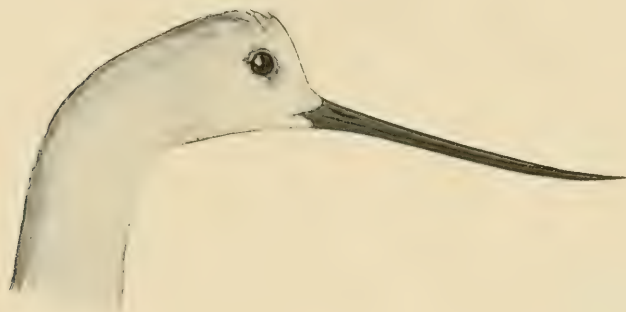
Length, 7.45; Wing, 5; Tail, 2.50; Bill, .94; Tarsus, .70.

This is a maritime species which ranges from the far north, where it breeds, southward to the Middle States. It is claimed to be occasionally seen off the coast of Florida, and I once purchased a stuffed specimen (which may or may not have been taken in Florida) from a dealer in Jacksonville, with a number of other skins of Florida birds.

The eggs are laid on the ground, the nest being formed of a little grass, and are from three to four in number, pale olive marked with chocolate brown.

FAMILY RECURVIROSTRIDÆ. AVOCETS AND STILTS.

GENUS RECURVIROSTRA LINN.



Recurvirostra americana.

RECURVIROSTRA AMERICANA Gmel.

American Avocet.

Adult in summer: Bill very slender and curved upwards; feet partly webbed; general plumage white, becoming cinnamon brown on the head and neck, but remaining whitish at the base of the bill; primaries black; most of the secondaries white, forming a broad white patch on the wing; tail ashy gray; legs bluish; bill black.

Adult in winter: Head and most of the neck ashy gray; tail ashy gray; rest as in summer plumage.

Length, 18 to 20; Wing, 7.50 to 9; Tail, 3.50; Bill, 3.25 to 3.75; Tarsus, 3.60.

This is a western species which ranges from the Great Slave Lake southward to Central America and the West Indies: is not common on the Atlantic coast north of Florida. Stragglers have been recorded as far north as the Bay of Fundy, but it is a very rare bird in New England.

The eggs are from three to four in number, pale grayish olive spotted with very dark brown.

GENUS HIMANTOPUS BRISS.

*Himantopus mexicanus.***HIMANTOPUS MEXICANUS** (*Müll.*).**Black-necked Stilt.**

Adult: Top and sides of the head and back of the neck and back black; under eyelid and a spot above and behind the eye, forehead and sides of the head under the eye white; rest of under parts with the rump and upper tail coverts white; tail ash gray or pearl gray; bill black; legs red in life.

The immature bird has the upper parts brownish; feathers edged with whitish; wings blackish, some of the feathers tipped with white; wing coverts edged with buff or tawny brown; under parts white mottled with black and tawny brown.

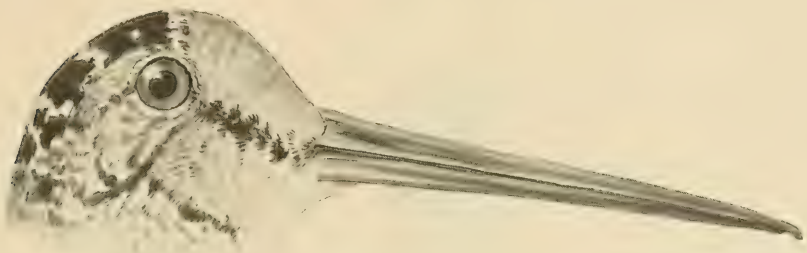
Length, 15.50; Wing, 9; Tail, 3; Tarsus, 4.25; Bill, 2.70.

This species is common throughout tropical America, occasionally being found in the Mississippi Valley as far north as Minnesota. It is accidental on the Atlantic coast north of Florida and Southern Georgia, although it has been recorded as far north as Long Island. It is common in Florida after April first, and breeds in the State.

The eggs are laid on the ground, sometimes on a little grass, and again without any nest whatever. They are three to four in number and pale brown or dull white, spotted and marked with chocolate brown.

FAMILY SCOLOPACIDÆ. SNIPES, SANDPIPERS, ETC.

GENUS PHILOHELA GRAY.

PHILOHELA MINOR (*Gmel.*).

American Woodcock.

Adult: Bill long, corrugated near the end; upper parts variegated with tawny rufous brown and black; head rufous brown, banded on the occiput with alternate bands of black and tawny brown; a line of black from the eye to the bill; a narrow patch on the sides of the lower head, blackish; throat pale rufous or rufous white; under parts of the body pale rufous; quills brownish; tail feathers dusky tipped with ash; bill pale brown, yellowish at the base; legs reddish; bill light brown; paler and yellowish at base.

Length, 11.50; Wing, 5.45; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 2.90 to 3.05.

Common on the Atlantic coast from Labrador to the Gulf of Mexico, breeding, as a rule, north of the Carolinas. It is occasionally observed in Florida in winter and is very abundant in the swamps of Alabama and Louisiana at some seasons. The eggs are usually four, mottled and spotted with brown.

GENUS GALLINAGO LEACH.

GALLINAGO DELICATA (*Ord.*).

Wilson's Snipe. English Snipe.

Bill long and straight, being slightly enlarged near the tip and showing numerous small pits; *no web on toes*; general upper parts dark brown, tawny brown, pale yellow, dull white; top of the head black with middle stripe of tawny brown; outer web of first primary white; greater

wing coverts brownish or dusky with white tips; axilars and under surface of wings barred with black; upper tail coverts tawny brown barred with black; tail feathers chestnut brown with subterminal black bar; tips white and feathers marked with black at the base; under parts white; breast and throat speckled and lined with brown; sides of the body brownish barred with dull black.

Length, 11; Wing, 5; Tail, 2.20; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 2.40 to 2.60.



Gallinago delicata.

Range from Hudson Bay and Labrador south to South America. Breeds from New England northward. This species is common in Florida in winter, where it is found in great numbers on the fresh water marshes. It is common on the New England coast in the spring and fall, and occasionally a few remain to breed.

The eggs are pale buff color spotted with chocolate brown, more numerous at the larger ends; bill brown (greenish gray in life), paler at base and darker toward the end.

GENUS **MACRORHAMPHUS** LEACH.

MACRORHAMPHUS GRISEUS (*Gmel.*).

Dowitcher. Red-breasted Snipe.

Adult in summer: A small web between the inner toes; upper parts blackish; feathers edged with tawny brown; top of head blackish mottled with tawny brown; under parts red brown, banded on the sides; throat and breast only slightly spotted, entirely without spots in some plumages; tail and tail coverts barred with black. Bill dark olive.

In winter: Upper parts grayish, feathers showing faint edges of buff on the back; chin and superciliary stripe dull grayish white; breast gray, showing slight traces of tawny; rest of under parts dirty white, mottled on the crissum; tail banded black and white.

Length, 10.30; Wing, 5.70; Tarsus, 1.30; Bill, 2.20 to 2.50.

Ranges from the Arctic Circle to South America; common during the migrations, being common in winter in Florida. It breeds in the far north, eggs being pale buff or dull olive mottled and speckled with dark brown.

MACRORHAMPHUS SCOLOPACEUS (*Say.*).

Long-billed Dowitcher. Western Red-breasted Snipe.

Resembles the preceding species, but the bill is longer and the sides of the body are more distinctly barred with black; the principal difference is one of size.

Length, 11; Wing, 6.05; Tarsus, 1.55; Bill, 2.20 to 2.60.

This is a western species, which occasionally occurs on the Atlantic coast. It is a common bird in Florida in winter. The eggs are similar in coloration to those of the preceding species.

GENUS **MICROPALAMA** BAIRD.**MICROPALAMA HIMANTOPUS** (Bonap.).**Stilt Sandpiper.**

Adult in summer: Legs long; entire plumage dull white and dark brown, being banded on the under parts with dark brown and the upper parts streaked with dark brown; a stripe of chestnut brown above and below the eye, the former extending backwards and joining at the occiput; secondaries edged with tawny brown.

Adult in winter: Upper plumage gray; feathers on the back edged with white; breast pale buff slightly mottled, shading into dull white on the upper throat; belly dull white; bill black.

Length, 8.20; Wing, 5; **Tarsus, 1.65**; Bill, 1.60.

This species ranges from the Arctic Circle to South America, being abundant on the Atlantic coast during the migrations; it is common in Florida. It has the general appearance of a very diminutive Summer Yellow-legs, having olive green legs instead of yellow.

It breeds in the far north; the eggs are pale buffy white, spotted with brown.

GENUS **TRINGA** LINN.SUBGENUS **TRINGA.****TRINGA CANUTUS** Linn.**Knot. Robin Snipe.**

Male in summer: Under parts except lower belly reddish brown; lower belly white; a stripe of reddish brown over the eye; back and wing coverts mottled gray, black and tawny.

Adult in winter: Entire upper parts ashy gray; the shafts of the feathers on the back showing dark brown; a superciliary stripe, dull white; throat white; breast showing slight gray marking; belly white; legs black; bill black.

Length, 10.60; Wing, 6.70; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, 1.30.

This species breeds in the Arctic regions, occurring on the Atlantic coast during migrations; it is common

in Florida in fall and spring, a few remaining all winter. The eggs are described as being light pea green in color, finely spotted with brown.

SUBGENUS **ARQUATELLA** BAIRD.

TRINGA MARITIMA *Brünn.*

Purple Sandpiper.



Adult : Upper parts gray, showing slight purplish reflections when held in the light; breast gray; throat grayish white; belly white, marked with gray on the sides; bill brown, yellow at base.

Length, 9.25; Wing, 5; Tarsus, .92; Bill, 1.30.

The Purple Sandpiper is a northern species, breeding in high latitudes, but occurring in winter on the Atlantic coast south to Florida, where it is by no means common, a specimen being occasionally taken on the west coast. Some birds remain on the New England coast all winter.

The eggs are buff, sometimes tinged with olive and mottled with brown.

SUBGENUS **ACTODROMAS** KAUP.

TRINGA MACULATA *Vieill.*

Pectoral Sandpiper. Grass Bird.



Head and upper parts brown, the feathers edged with tawny; throat and belly white; breast pale brown, the feathers narrowly streaked with dark brown; upper tail coverts **black**; basal half of bill dull greenish yellow.

Length, 9; Wing, 5.25; Tarsus, 1.05; Bill, 1.15.

This species ranges from the Arctic regions to South America, being common on the Atlantic coast during migrations. It breeds in the far north.

The eggs are greenish buff, mottled with brown, heaviest at the larger end.

TRINGA FUSCICOLLIS *Vieill.***White-rumped Sandpiper.**

Adult in summer: Top of the head and back mottled with black, dull white, and buff; throat white; breast finely lined with dark brown; belly white; an imperfect superciliary line of dull white, rump dusky gray and *most of upper tail coverts white.*

Adult in winter: Top of the head and back grayish, some of the feathers marked with dark brown, giving it a slightly mottled appearance on the back and top of the head; upper throat white; breast ashy gray, the shafts of the feathers showing brown; belly white; forehead whitish, extending in an imperfect superciliary line.

Length, 6.85; Wing, 4.95; Tarsus, .95; Bill, .95.

This species may be distinguished by the white upper tail coverts. It ranges from the Arctic regions south to South America and the West Indies. It breeds in high latitudes; the eggs are buff or olive, spotted and dotted with dark brown.

TRINGA MINUTILLA *Vieill.***Least Sandpiper.**

Adult in summer: Very small; upper parts marked with tawny black and pale buff; under parts whitish on the throat, shading into ashy gray, showing faint brownish lines on the breast; rest of the under parts white; bill dull black. *No web between toes.*

Adult in winter: Similar to the above but grayer in color.

Length, 5.50 to 6.50; Wing, 3.60; Tarsus, .75; Bill, .85.

The Least Sandpiper may be distinguished from the Semipalmated Sandpiper by the absence of the small web between the toes, so noticeable in that species.

Common throughout North and South America, breeding north of the United States. Eggs are three to four, generally pale buff mottled with chestnut brown.



SUBGENUS PELIDNA CUV.

TRINGA ALPINA PACIFICA (Coues).

Red-backed Sandpiper.



Adult in summer: The feathers on the top of the head and back bright rufous brown heavily blotched with black on the central part of each feather; throat whitish; breast streaked with black; belly black on the upper part, becoming white on the lower belly and crissum; bill black.

Adult in winter: Upper parts gray, slightly mottled; throat white; breast gray, the shafts of the feathers dark brown; belly and under tail coverts pure white; a faint dull white superciliary line.

Length, 8; Wing, 4.75; Tarsus, 1.10; Bill, 1.65.

Ranges throughout North America, breeding far northward. It occurs on the Atlantic coast during migrations.

The eggs are buffy white, sometimes bluish white, mottled with chocolate at the larger end.

SUBGENUS ANCYLOCHEILUS KAUP.

GENUS EREUNETES ILLIGER.

EREUNETES PUSILLUS (Linn.).

Semipalmated Sandpiper.



Ereunetes pusillus
(foot).



Adult in summer: Heavily marked with dark brown and tawny on the top of the head and back; forehead whitish; under parts and throat white; breast mottled with grayish; belly white; *toes with small web.*

Adult in winter: Upper parts grayish, mottled with brown on the head, and the feathers showing dark brown edged with white on the back; throat white; breast very faintly washed with gray, which is sometimes very indistinct; belly and under tail coverts white; *toes with small web.*

Length, 6.25; Wing, 3.70; Tarsus, .75; Bill, .80.

Ranges from Labrador southward to the West Indies, and is common on the Atlantic coast during migrations. This species may be distinguished from the Least Sandpiper by the partly webbed toes.

The eggs are buff white, mottled with brown and chocolate brown, heaviest on the larger end.

EREUNETES OCCIDENTALIS *Lawr.*

Western Semipalmated Sandpiper.

This species may be distinguished from *E. pusillus* by its longer bill, which is oftentimes 1.25 inches in length, while *E. pusillus* rarely if ever has the bill one inch in length. Occasionally examples of the Western Sandpiper have the bill less than one inch, and in such cases it is almost impossible to distinguish them from the winter examples of *E. pusillus*; therefore it is perhaps as well for the sportsmen to consider all of those birds having bills less than one inch in length to be *E. pusillus*, and if it is important to have the identification absolutely accurate, they could easily obtain the opinion of some professional ornithologist to settle such a fine point.

Adult in summer: **A small web between the toes;** top of head brown; back reddish brown; the feathers marked with black and some of them tipped and edged with white; rump smoky black; under parts white, showing a faint tawny tinge on the breast.

Adult in winter: Top of head and back gray, showing brown on the shafts of the feathers forehead and under parts dull white; the breast faintly lined with grayish brown, sometimes entirely wanting.

Bill black, becoming greenish olive on basal part of the mandible.

Length, 6.50; Wing, 3.85; Tarsus, .82; Bill, .90 to 1.15.

Occasionally occurs on the Atlantic coast, although its home is properly in the West. It is common in Florida in winter, more so on the West than on the East coast.

The eggs are pale buff dotted with dark brown.

GENUS CALIDRIS CUV.

CALIDRIS ARENARIA (*Linn.*).

Sanderling. Bull-peep.



Adult in summer: Head, throat, and upper parts, except rump, reddish brown, black and white; belly and under parts pure white.

Adult in winter: Top of the head and back ash gray, the shafts of the feathers being brown; forehead and entire under parts white; bill black.

Length, 8.10; Wing, 5.05; Tarsus, 1; Bill, 1.

This species may always be distinguished by the absence of the fourth toe, being the only Sandpiper occurring on our coast having three toes. It is

common during migrations, ranging from the Arctic regions to the West Indies and South America. The eggs are light olive and buff, spotted with brown.

GENUS LIMOSA BRISSON.

LIMOSA FEDOA (*Linn.*).

Marbled Godwit.

Adult in summer: Bill curved slightly upward; upper parts mottled with black and tawny; upper throat white, rest of throat finely streaked with brown; breast pale tawny, the feathers banded irregularly with brown; belly tawny, sometimes without bands; bill dull flesh color in its basal half, the rest blackish.

Adult in winter: Top of the head brown streaked with pale brown; feathers of the back dark brown edged with tawny; chin white; throat pale buff faintly lined with brown; under parts reddish buff; sides faintly barred with brown.

Length, 19; Wing, 8.80; Tarsus, 2.80; Bill, 3.50 to 4.50.



Limosa fedoa.

This species breeds in the interior from the Missouri region northward. It occurs in winter south to Florida and Cuba, but is not abundant anywhere on the Atlantic coast.

The eggs are described as being from three to four in number and of a dull brownish ash color, blotched and mottled with gray and grayish brown.

LIMOSA HÆMASTICA (Linn.).**Hudsonian Godwit.**

Adult in summer: Bill slightly curved up; top of the head dusky, showing pale brown streaks; back black, the feathers spotted with tawny brown. *Upper tail coverts white;* chin whitish dotted with dusky; throat reddish brown streaked with brown; under parts dark rufous brown, faintly and irregularly banded with black. Bill grayish yellow, dark brown along the ridge of the upper mandible, and blackish towards the tips of both.

Adult in winter: General plumage grayish; top of the head gray mottled with brown; back gray; some of the feathers tipped with dark brown and indistinctly edged with dull whitish; upper tail coverts white; chin white; throat ash gray; under parts grayish white.

Length, 15.50; Wing, 8.30; Tarsus, 2.30; Bill, 3 to 3.40.

Ranges in Eastern North America from the far North south to South America. It is becoming less common every year, although at one time it was an abundant species, during the migrations, on our coast.

Breeds in the far North; the eggs are described as dark brownish olive lined and spotted with dark brown.

GENUS TOTANUS BECHST.**SUBGENUS GLOTTIS** KOCH.**TOTANUS NEBULARIUS** (Gunn.).**Green-shank.**

This species has the general appearance of a Winter Yellow-leg (*Totanus melanoleucus*), although the marking is somewhat different. It is a very rare bird on our coast, there being no actual record since Audubon's time, who states that specimens were taken in Florida, near Cape Sable. It may easily be distinguished by the greenish-gray legs and the dusky-green bill, which is dark at the tip, and the white rump.

Length, 14; Wing, 7.20; Bill, 2.30 to 2.50; Tarsus, 2.30.

TOTANUS MELANOLEUCUS (*Gmel.*).**Greater Yellow=legs. Winter Yellow=legs.**

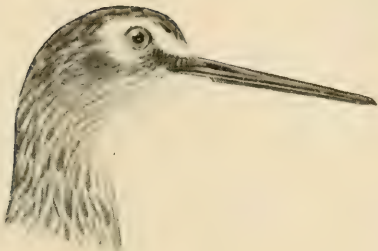
Adult in summer: Bill nearly straight; upper plumage mottled with white and black; throat white streaked with black; chin whitish; breast white heavily streaked with black; rest of under parts white irregularly marked with black; middle of belly nearly always pure white; bill black and legs yellow.

Adult in winter: Top of the head and neck streaked white and dark brown; back brown, the feathers narrowly edged with whitish; chin white; breast white, narrowly lined with dark brown; rest of under parts white; bill black and legs yellow.

Length, 14.50; Wing, 7.80; Tarsus, 2.50; Bill, 2.30.

Common in Eastern North America from the Arctic region southward to South America. It is abundant on the Atlantic coast during migrations; common in Florida in winter.

The eggs are pale buffy brown spotted with dark brown.

TOTANUS FLAVIPES (*Gmel.*)**Summer Yellow=legs.**

Upper parts grayish brown mottled with whitish on the back; chin white; throat white streaked with pale grayish brown; breast mottled, belly white; tail feathers banded brown and white; bill black; legs yellow.

Length, 10.80; Wing, 6.45; Tarsus, 2.10; Bill, 1.45.

Ranges from the sub-Arctic regions southward to South America. Breeds in the interior from Minnesota and Illinois northward. The eggs are pale buff dotted and blotched with dark brown and chocolate brown. This is a well-known

species on our coast during the migrations. It is common in Florida in winter, especially during migrations.

SUBGENUS **RHYACOPHILUS** KAUP.

TOTANUS SOLITARIUS (*Wils.*).

Solitary Sandpiper.

Adult in summer: Top of head and back bronzy green dotted with white; under parts white; the breast thickly streaked and dotted with brown; bill greenish brown (in life), dusky terminally.

Adult in winter: Upper parts olive brown, showing a faint greenish gloss when held in the light, the feathers faintly dotted with dull white; throat white; breast streaked with brown; rest of under parts white.

Length, 8.50; Wing, 5.30; Tarsus, 1.20; Bill, 1.30.



Totanus solitarius.

This species ranges from the sub-Arctic regions southward to South America. It usually occurs on our Atlantic coast during the migrations, and is not uncommon in Florida. It breeds from Pennsylvania and Illinois northward. The eggs, which are described from a single specimen taken by Jenness Richardson, in Vermont, and described by Dr. Brewer, are light drab with small rounded brown markings, having a few faint purplish marks on the larger end.

GENUS **SYMPHEMIA** RAF.**SYMPHEMIA SEMIPALMATA** (Gmel.).**Willet.**

Adult in summer: Upper plumage gray, streaked on the head with dark brown, and the central portion of many of the feathers has the back blotched with brown; chin white; throat white dotted with brown; under parts dull white, the feathers on the sides barred with brown and washed with tawny; axillars black; bill bluish, dusky toward end.

Adult in winter: Bill nearly straight, upper plumage gray, showing faint indications of whitish on the tips of some of the feathers on the back; chin whitish; throat ashy gray; the rest of under parts white, showing ashy on the sides of the body. The broad white band on the wings is a distinguishing character of this bird when flying, formed by the basal portion of the primaries and some of the secondaries being white.

Length, 15.50; Wing, 8.10; Tarsus, 2.30; Bill, 2 to 2.30.



Sympheemia semipalmata.

Ranges from temperate South America south to the West Indies and South America.

It breeds from New England to Florida, although it does not breed commonly north of the Carolinas. It is a very common species in Florida,

where it frequents the beaches and marshes, and may be easily distinguished by its broad white wing band and peculiar whistle.

It is not likely to be confounded with any species, but a very good distinguishing character is the black axillars.

The eggs are three in number, sometimes four, deposited on the ground with scarcely any indication of a nest. They are pale buff in color, spotted with chocolate brown, heaviest on the larger end.

SYMPHEMIA SEMIPALMATA INORNATA *Brewst.*

Western Willet.

General resemblance to the preceding species, but the upper parts are paler and not so heavily marked with black; the breast shows usually more buff color. In winter plumage it resembles the eastern form except in size, the bill usually being longer and the bird somewhat larger.

Length, 15.60; Wing, 8.50; Tarsus, 2.55; Bill, 2.30 to 2.80.

It is a western species common in Florida in winter, its true range being from Texas to Manitoba.

GENUS BARTRAMIA LESS.

BARTRAMIA LONGICAUDA (*Bechst.*).

Bartram's Sandpiper. Upland Plover.



Adult: Head, upper parts, and breast mottled brown and tawny; belly white; *first primary barred with white.*

In winter the bird is paler in coloration; throat white.

Length, 11.75; Wing, 6.60; Tarsus, 1.90; Bill, 1.20.

This species occurs in Eastern North America, from Nova Scotia south to South America. It is not very common anywhere on the Atlantic coast nowadays, although at one time it was an abundant species. It occurs in Florida in winter. A good diagnostic character of this species is the barred primary. It breeds from Virginia northward. The eggs are four to five in number, of a pale brownish color, mottled with chocolate brown near the larger end.

GENUS TRYNGITES CABANIS.

TRYNGITES SUBRUFICOLLIS (*Vieill.*).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper.

Adult in breeding plumage: Entire upper parts mottled with black and tawny brown, the feathers being black in the center and broadly edged with tawny; under parts pale rufous mottled with whitish.

Adult in winter plumage: Top of the head and nape pale tawny dotted with brown; feathers of the back blackish, narrowly edged with white; under parts pale buff, becoming whitish on the belly, faintly mottled with brownish on the sides of the breast. *Inner webs of primaries speckled.*

Length, 8; Wing, 5.30; Tarsus, 1.25; Bill, .85.



Not abundant on the Atlantic coast, usually ranging in the interior. It breeds from British America northward. It ranges in winter south to South America, being found on our coast during migrations.

The eggs are described as from three to four; pale buff white, spotted and lined with dark brown and purplish brown.

GENUS ACTITIS ILLIGER.

ACTITIS MACULARIA (*Linn.*).

Spotted Sandpiper.

Adult in summer: Top of the head and back olive green, showing bronzy reflections when held in the light; some of the feathers on the back irregularly marked with brown; under parts white, marked with large spots of black.

Adult in winter: Above olive, showing a bronzy luster when held in the light; feathers on the back faintly tipped with dusky; wing coverts narrowly banded with tawny; throat white; breast, under parts, including belly and under tail coverts, white; mandible and edge of the maxilla pale wax yellow (in life), rest of bill black.

Length, 8; Wing, 4.20; Tarsus, 1; Bill, 1.



Ranges from Hudson Bay to South America. It is a very well-known bird on our coast, being usually seen alone or in pairs. It is common on

small streams of fresh water and also on sand beaches, usually selecting rocky places. It breeds nearly throughout its range, the eggs being buff white or pale brown spotted with dark brown, mostly on the larger end.

GENUS **NUMENIUS** BRISSON.



Numenius longirostris.

NUMENIUS LONGIROSTRIS *Wils.*

Long-billed Curlew. Sickle-bill.

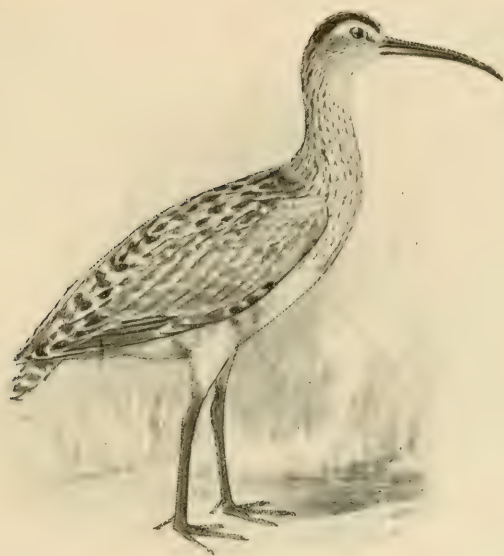
Adult in summer: Upper parts marked with buff and black; tail feathers alternately banded with tawny buff and brown; throat whitish; rest of under parts pale reddish brown, becoming very light on the belly; breast narrowly striped with brown on the middle of the feathers; bill very long.

Adult in winter: General plumage tawny brown; the back blackish, mottled with buff; top of the head dark brown; the feathers edged with tawny; throat white; under part pale buff brown; feathers on the lower throat and upper breast finely lined with dark brown; bill very long and curved downward; bill black, becoming dull lilac brown on basal half of the mandible.

Length, 26; Wing, 10.50; Tarsus, 2.30; Bill very variable, measuring from 2.50 to 9.

The immature of this species has the bill nearly straight but quite short, sometimes not exceeding two inches in length.

Ranges from temperate North America south to Central America and the West Indies. It breeds in the Southern Atlantic States, but is now not common on the Atlantic coast, and is becoming less so every year. The eggs are described as olive gray in color, spotted with chocolate brown.



NUMENIUS HUDSONICUS *Lath.*

Hudsonian Curlew.

Adult in summer: Bill curved downward; top of the head brown, with a stripe of buffy white through the middle; rest of upper parts dark brown; feathers pale on the edges, giving a slightly mottled appearance to the back; chin white; throat and breast streaked and faintly barred with brown and white; belly dull white; an imperfect superciliary stripe.

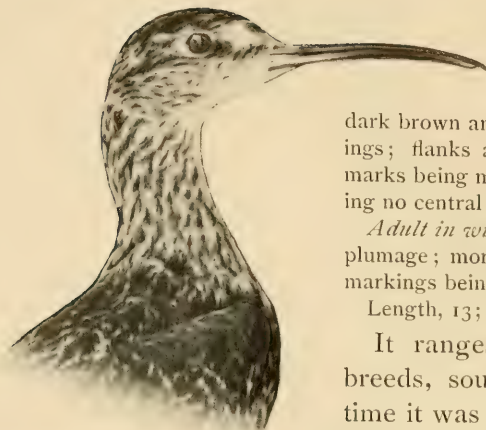
Adult in winter: Similar to the last, but showing much more tawny mottled on the upper parts, and the under parts paler; a superciliary stripe of dull white.

Length, 17.50; Wing, 9.20; Tarsus, 2.30; Bill, 3 to 3.75.

Common in North America, south in winter to South America and the West Indies. Breeds in the far North.

It is one of the well-known birds on the Atlantic coast, occurring during the migrations.

This species may always be distinguished from the Esquimo or Long-billed Curlew by the buffy stripe on the middle of the crown. The eggs are described as three or four in number, grayish olive spotted with brown.

NUMENIUS BOREALIS (*Forst.*).**Eskimo Curlew. Dough Bird.**

Adult in summer: Bill curved downward, general plumage above mottled black and tawny; chin whitish; throat and under parts tawny buff, marked on the throat with

dark brown and on the breast with arrow-like brown markings; flanks and sides of the body tawny, the arrow-like marks being much heavier and larger; top of the head showing no central stripe of buffy white.

Adult in winter: Lacking the tawny color of the summer plumage; more whitish on the under parts, otherwise the markings being similar.

Length, 13; Wing, 8.10; Tarsus, 2; Bill, 2.75 to 3.50.

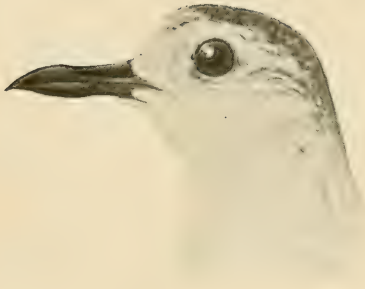
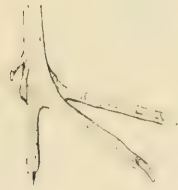
It ranges from the Arctic regions, where it breeds, southward to South America. At one time it was a very abundant bird on our coast during the migrations, but is becoming less common every year. It prefers the fields to the beaches, being often found in company with the Golden Plover. It is comparatively rare in Florida, but occurs regularly during migrations. The eggs are pale olive gray spotted with dark brown, mostly at the larger end.

FAMILY CHARADRIIDÆ. PLOVERS.**GENUS CHARADRIUS LINN.****SUBGENUS SQUATAROLA CUV.****CHARADRIUS SQUATAROLA** (*Linn.*).**Black-bellied Plover. Beetle Head.**

Adult male in summer: Upper parts smoky black; feathers edged with dull white; breast black except in highest plumage, showing traces of whitish on the feathers; abdomen and under tail coverts white; forehead white; **axillars smoky black.**

Adult in winter: Upper plumage brownish mottled with gray; under parts white; breast and sides streaked with ashy brown; bill black.

Length, 11.25; Wing, 7.45; Tarsus, 1.85; Bill, 1.10.

*Charadrius squatarola* (summer plumage).*Charadrius squatarola* (winter plumage).*Charadrius squatarola* (foot).

This species may always be distinguished from the Golden Plover by the presence of a rudimentary hind toe and the black axillars, which are gray in the Golden Plover.

It ranges from the Arctic regions to South America, being common on the Atlantic coast during migrations. It breeds in the far North; the eggs are usually four, pale olive brown, spotted and speckled with brown and black.

SUBGENUS **CHARADRIUS** LINN.**CHARADRIUS DOMINICUS** Müll.**American Golden Plover.**

Summer plumage: Back and upper parts smoky black; feathers marked and edged with yellow and brown; sides of the breast whitish; rest of under parts, throat, and sides of the head, including eye, black; forehead whitish, a stripe extending backwards over the eye; bill black.

Winter plumage: Upper parts brownish, feathers marked with dull tawny or buff; under parts are dull white streaked with ashy brown or gray on the breast and sides.

Length, 10.25; Wing, 7; Tarsus, 1.55; Bill, .92.

This species may always be distinguished in any plumage from the Black-breast Plover by the gray axillars and the absence of the small rudimentary hind toe.

It ranges from the Arctic regions to South America, being common on the coast during migration. It was at one time abundant in New England in the early fall, but its numbers have decreased greatly within the past few years. It is not a common bird in Florida, although it is occasionally taken in the State.

It breeds in the far North; the eggs are buff colored or brownish white mottled and marked with chocolate brown.

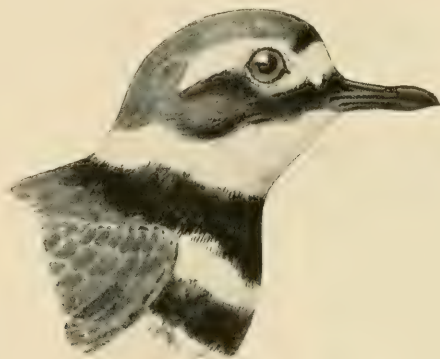
GENUS **ÆGIALITIS** BOIE.SUBGENUS **OXYECHUS** REICH.**ÆGIALITIS VOCIFERA** (Linn.).**Killdeer Plover.**

Adult: Crown and back brownish gray, feathers tipped with rufous; a ring around the neck, lores, and a patch on the breast black; forehead white; throat and spot behind the eye and a band around the neck white; lower breast and belly white; tail coverts and rump bright rufous; tail rufous and gray tipped with black and white; bill black.

Length, 10.65; Wing, 6.55; Tarsus, 1.40; Bill, .75.

The Killdeer Plover ranges on the Atlantic coast from Newfoundland to the northern part of South America. It is a rare bird on the New Eng-

land coast as a rule. A few years ago there was a great flight of these birds along the coast of Massachusetts in December, and hundreds of them were sent to market and sold. I killed several near Hyannis, Mass., at that time.



Ægialitis vocifera.

The Killdeer is a common bird in Florida. The eggs are pale brownish white mottled and lined with chocolate brown.

SUBGENUS **ÆGIALITIS** BOIE.

ÆGIALITIS SEMIPALMATA Bonap.

Semipalmated Plover. Ring-neck.



Adult: Forehead white, succeeded by a band of black; rest of head, back, and wings ashy gray; a dull stripe of blackish passing from the bill under the eye to the sides of the neck; a small patch of white back of the eye; a broad band of black on the breast; rest of under parts white; throat white, extending around the neck and joining at the back in a very narrow stripe; secondaries tipped with white; bill black, orange at the base; a bright orange ring around the eye.

Adult in summer: Toes with small webs.

Length, 6.80; Wing, 4.75; Tarsus, .93; Bill, .50.

Ranges from the Arctic regions to South America, breeding from Labrador northward. It is a common species on our coast during the migrations. The eggs are usually four, pale brownish white spotted with chocolate brown.

ÆGIALITIS MELODA (Ord).**Piping Plover.**

Adult in summer: Upper parts ashy; forehead white, separated from the ash color of the head by a narrow patch of black; a band on the side of the breast black; under parts and a ring around the neck white.

Adult in winter: Similar to the summer plumage, but the black marking replaced by grayish buff or ashy gray instead of black. Bill orange at base, tipped with black.

Length, 7.20; Wing, 4.80; Tarsus, .90; Bill, .50.

Ranges from Labrador to the West Indies and South America. It is a common species on the New England coast during the migrations, and is a regular winter visitant to Florida, although not abundant.

The Piping Plover breeds from Virginia to Labrador and Newfoundland. The eggs are dull white marked with dark brown.

ÆGIALITIS MELODA CIRCUMCINCTA Ridgw.**Belted Piping Plover.**

It is similar to *N. meloda*, but differs in having an unbroken black band from the sides around in front of the neck.

This species occurs on the coast during the migrations. I am not aware that it has been recorded from Florida, but it no doubt occurs there.

SUBGENUS OCHTHODROMUS REICH.**ÆGIALITIS WILSONIA (Ord.).****Wilson's Plover.**

Adult male: Above ashy brown; forehead white, extending into a faint superciliary stripe of dull black on the crown; throat white, continuing on the sides of the neck, nearly joining upon the nape; a black pectoral band, the feathers edged with white, becoming brown upon the sides; under parts white; two central tail feathers brown, the others showing increasing markings of white to the outer tail feathers, which are white; bill black (large and stout); legs pinkish.

Female and immature birds have the pectoral band brown, and no black on the head.
Length, 7.45; Wing, 4.60; Tail, 1.90; Tarsus, 1.16; Bill, .90.

This is rather a Southern species, but stragglers have been taken as far north as Nova Scotia.

It breeds from Virginia southward and is a common bird in Florida.

The eggs are usually three in number, dull white dotted and spotted with chocolate brown.



Ægialitis wilsonia.



Ægialitis montana.

SUBGENUS **PODASOCYS** COUES.

ÆGIALITIS MONTANA (*Townsend*).

Mountain Plover.

Above uniform brownish gray; feathers occasionally edged with tawny brown; under parts entirely white with the exception of the breast, which at times shows a tinge of gray; a black loreal stripe extending from the bill to the eye, and a black superciliary stripe back of the head, showing a patch of black; shafts of the first primary white; wing coverts grayish brown, some of them tipped with white; bill black; legs pale brown.

Length, 8.75; Wing, 6; Tarsus, 1.60; Bill, .95.

“Temperate North America from the great plains westward; accidental in Florida.” (A.O.U.)

This species has been recorded from Florida, but it is not common in the State and must be considered as merely an accidental straggler.

The eggs are three to four in number, of olive brown color dotted and marked with brown.

FAMILY APHRIZIDÆ. SURF BIRDS AND TURNSTONES.

SUBFAMILY ARENARIINÆ. TURNSTONES.

GENUS ARENARIA BRISSON.

ARENARIA INTERPRES (Linn.).

Turnstone.



Adult in summer : General upper parts mottled and variegated with black, white, rufous, and tawny; throat and breast black and white; rest of under parts white; tail with subterminal band of black tipped with white.

Adult in winter : Above light, streaked and dashed with dark brown; an imperfect band of dark brown on the jugulum; chin and upper part of the throat white; sides of breast like the back; rest of the under parts white; a distinct white band on the wing; rump white, but with a broad patch of black on the upper tail coverts; tail dark brown, the tips and basal half of the inner feathers and nearly two thirds of the outer feathers white; legs reddish orange; bill black.

Length, 8.65; Wing, 5.70; Tail, 2.60; Tarsus, 1; Bill, .95.

This species ranges from the Arctic regions to South America and is common during migrations on the Atlantic coast. It breeds in high latitudes; the eggs are pale clay color mottled and lined with dull brown. It is a common bird in Florida in winter.

FAMILY HÆMATOPODIDÆ. OYSTER-CATCHERS.

GENUS HÆMATOPUS LINN.

HÆMATOPUS PALLIATUS Temm.

American Oyster-catcher.

Winter plumage, male : Head and neck blackish or very dark brown; back brown; lower part of breast and rest of under parts white; eyelids, rump, tips of wing coverts, part of secondaries, and basal portion of the tail feathers white; bill orange, darkening at the tip (in summer deep red); legs flesh color.

Length, 17.40; Wing, 10.05; Tail, 4.35; Tarsus, 2.30; Bill, 3.50.

*Hæmatopus palliatus.*

This species occurs on the seacoast of temperate and tropical America, frequenting the beaches, where it is often met with in pairs or small flocks. It occasionally occurs as far north as New Jersey. Stragglers have been taken near Grand Menan, Maine, and on the coast of Massachusetts. It is a common species in Florida, where it breeds. The eggs are pale brownish white spotted with chocolate brown.



INDEX.

(LATIN.)

Actitis macularia	48, 155	Arenaria interpres	52, 164
Actodromas	145	Arenariinæ	164
Ægialitis	51, 160, 161	Arquatella	145
meloda	51, 162	Aythya	27, 94
" circumcincta	162	affinis	28, 29, 97
montana	51, 163	americana	28, 30, 94
semipalmata	51, 161	collaris	29, 30, 97
vocifera	51, 160	marila nearctica	28, 29, 96
wilsonia	51, 162	vallisneria	27, 95
Æstelrelata hasitata	17, 70	Bartramia longicauda	46, 154
Aix sponsa	25, 93	Botaurinæ	115
Ajaja ajaja	34, 110	Botaurus lentiginosus	39, 115
Anas	24, 83	Branta	32, 107
americana	25, 87	bernicle	33, 108
boschas	24, 25, 83	canadensis	32, 107
carolinensis	27, 83	Butorides	125
cyanoptera	27, 89		
discors	26, 89	Calidris arenaria	48, 148
fulvigula	25, 85	Charadriidæ	50, 158
obscura	25, 84	Charadrius	50, 158, 160
strepera	25, 86	dominicus	51, 160
Anatidæ	22, 80	squatarola	50, 158
Anatinæ	24, 83	Charitonetta albeola	30, 99
Ancylocheilus	147	Chauleasmus	86
Anhinga anhinga	19, 75	Chen	32, 105
Anhingidæ	19, 75	cærulescens	33, 105
Anous stolidus	14, 67	hyperborea nivalis	32, 105
Anser albifrons gambeli	33, 106	Ciconiæ	114
Anseres	80	Ciconiidæ	36, 114
Anserina	32, 105	Clangula hyemalis	29, 100
Aphrizidæ	52, 164	Colymbus auritus	9, 53
Aramidæ	41, 131	Coturnicops	135
Aramus giganteus	41, 131	Creciscus	135
Ardea	37, 117	Crymophilus fulcarius	138
cœrulea	38, 39, 124	Cygninæ	33, 108
candidissima	38, 120	Cyrtopelicanus	74
egretta	38, 119	Cymodroma grallaria	17, 71
herodias	38, 118		
occidentalis	37, 117	Dafila acuta	24, 91
rufescens	38, 121	Dichromanassa	121
tricolor ruficollis	39, 122	Diomedea exulans	16, 69
virescens	39, 125	Diomedeidæ	16, 69
wardi	38, 118	Dysporus	74
wiervedemanni	118		
Ardeidæ	37, 115	Ereunetes	47, 147
Ardeinæ	117	occidentalis	47, 148
Ardetta	40, 116	pusillus	48, 147
exilis	40, 116	Erismatura rubida	30, 101
neoxena	40, 117		

Florida	124	americana	22, 80
Fregata aquila	21, 79	serrator	22, 23, 81
Fregatidæ	21, 79	Merginæ	22, 80
Fulica americana	43, 137	Micropalama himantopus	47, 144
Fulicinæ	43, 137		
Fuliginæ	27	Nettion	88
Fuligulinæ	94	Numenius	18, 150
Fuligula	96	borealis	50, 158
		hudsonicus	48, 157
Gallinago delicata	45, 141	longirostris	18, 150
Gallinula galeata	43, 136	Nyctherodius	127
Gallinulinæ	43, 136	Nycticorax	39, 126
Garzetta	120	nycticorax naevius	39, 126
Gelochelidon nilotica	15, 62	violaceus	39, 127
Glaucionetta clangula americana	29, 30, 99		
Glottis	150	Oceanites oceanicus	17, 71
Grues	128	Ochthodromus	162
Gruidæ	40, 128	Odontoglossæ	109
Grus	40, 128	Oidemia	30, 101
americana	40, 128	americana	31, 101
mexicana	40, 130	deglandi	31, 102
Guara	35, 111	perspicillata	30, 31, 103
alba	35, 111	Olor columbianus	33, 108
rubra	35, 36, 112	Oxyechus	160
Hæmatopodidæ	52, 164	Paludicolæ	128
Hæmatopus palliatus	52, 164	Pelecanidæ	20, 77
Herodias	119	Pelecanus	20, 77
Herodii	115	erythrorhynchus	20, 77
Herodiones	110	fuscus	20, 78
Himantopus mexicanus	44, 140	Pelidna	147
Hydranassa	122	Pelionetta	103
Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis	15, 67	Phaëthon flavirostris	17, 72
		Phaëthontidæ	17, 72
Ibides	110	Phalacrocroacidæ	19, 76
Ibididæ	35, 111	Phalacrocorax dilophus floridanus	19, 76
Ionornis martinica	43, 136	Phalaropodidæ	44, 138
		Phalaropus lobatus	44
Laridæ	12, 59	Philohela minor	45, 141
Larinæ	12, 59	Phœnicopteridæ	34, 109
Larus	12, 59	Phœnicopterus ruber	34, 109
argentatus smithsonianus	12, 60	Plataleidæ	34, 110
atricilla	12, 61	Plegadis	35, 113
delawarensis	12, 60	autumnalis	35, 113
marinus	12, 59	guarauna	35, 114
philadelphia	12, 61	Podasocys	163
Limicolæ	138	Podicipidæ	9, 53
Limosa	48, 149	Podilymbus podiceps	9, 54
fedoa	48, 149	Porzana	42, 134
hæmastica	49, 150	carolina	42, 134
Longipennes	57	jamaicensis	42, 135
Lophodytes cucullatus	23, 82	noveboracensis	42, 135
		Procellariidæ	16, 60
Macrorhamphus	45, 143	Puffinus	16, 60
griseus	45, 143	auduboni	17, 70
scolopaccus	45, 143	major	16, 60
Mareca	87	Pygopodes	53
Melanitta	102		
Merganser	22, 80	Querquedula	89

Ralli	131	Sterninae	13, 62
Rallidæ	41, 132	Sula	18, 73
Rallinæ	41, 132	bassana	18, 74
Rallus	41, 132	cyanops	18, 73
elegans	41, 132	piscator	18, 74
longirostris crepitans	41, 133	sula	18, 73
" scottii	42, 134	Sulidæ	18, 73
virginianus	42, 133	Symphemia	49, 153
Recurvirostra americana	44, 139	semipalmata	49, 153
Recurvirostridæ	44, 139	" inornata	49, 154
Rhyacophilus	152	Tantalinae	114
Rhynchopidæ	15, 68	Tantalus oculator	36, 114
Rhynchops nigra	15, 68	Totanus	46, 150
Scolopacidæ	15, 141	flavipes	46, 151
Spatula clypeata	26, 90	melanoleucus	49, 151
Squatarola	158	nebularius	50, 150
Steganopodes	72	solitarius	47, 152
Stercorariidæ	11, 57	Tringa	46, 141
Stercorarius	11, 57	alpina pacifica	47, 147
longicaudus	11, 58	canutus	46, 144
parasiticus	11, 57	fuscicollis	48, 146
Sterna	13, 62	maculata	46, 145
anæthetus	14, 66	maritima	47, 145
antillarum	15, 65	minutilla	48, 146
dougalli	14, 65	Tryngites subruficollis	47, 155
forsteri	14, 64	Tubinares	69
fuliginosa	13, 66	Urinator	10, 55
hirundo	13, 64	imber	10, 55
maxima	13, 63	lumme	10, 56
sandvicensis acufflava	13, 63	Urinatoridæ	10, 55
tschegrava	13, 62		

INDEX.

(ENGLISH.)

Albatross, Wandering	16, 69	Bluebill	28, 29
Anhinga	19, 75	Broadbill	26
Avocet, American	44, 139	Buffle-head	30, 99
Baldpate	25, 87	Butter-ball	99
Beetle-head	50, 158	Butter-bill	31
Bittern, American	39, 115	Canvas-back	27, 95
Cory's Least	40, 117	Dusky	25, 84
Least	40, 116	Florida Black	25, 85
Bluebill	28, 29	" Dusky	85
Booby, Blue-faced	18, 73	Gadwall	25, 86
Common	18, 73	Mallard	24, 25, 83
Red-footed	18, 74	Merganser, American	22, 80
Brant	33, 108	Hooded	23, 82
Broadbill	26	Red-breasted	22, 81
Buffle-head	30, 99	Old Squaw	29, 100
Bull-peep	148	Old Wife	100
Butter-ball	99	Pintail	24, 91
Butter-bill	31	Redhead	28, 30, 94
Canvas-back	27, 95	Ring-necked	29, 30, 97
Coot	31	Ruddy	30, 104
American	43, 137	Scaup, American	96
Black	101	Greater	28, 29
Sea	103	Lesser	28, 29, 97
Skunk-head	30, 31	Sheldrake	22
White-winged	31, 102	Shoveller	26, 90
Cormorant, Florida	19, 76	Spirit	99
Courlans	131	South Southerly	100
Crane, Sandhill	40, 130	Sprigtail	100
Whooping	40, 128	Summer	25
Crying-bird	41	Whistler	29, 30, 99
Curlew, Eskimo	50, 158	Widgeon, Baldpate	25
Hudsonian	48, 157	American	87
Jack	48	Wood	25, 93
Long-billed	48, 156	Dunlin, American	47
Darters	19, 75	Egret, American	38, 119
Divers	10, 53	Reddish	38, 121
Great Northern	10, 55	White	38, 120
Red-throated	10, 56	Flamingo, American	34, 109
Dough-bird	50, 158	Florida Black Duck	25, 85
Dowitcher	45, 143	" Dusky "	85
Dowitcher, Long-billed	45, 143	Fulmars	69
Ducks	22, 80	Gadwall	25, 86
American Golden Eye	29, 30, 99	Gallinule, Florida	43, 136
Baldpate	87	Purple	43, 136
Black	25, 84	Gannets	18, 73, 74

- Godwit, Hudsonian 49, 150
 Marbled 48, 149
 Golden Eye, American 29, 30, 99
 Goose, American White-fronted 33, 106
 Blue 33, 105
 Canada 32, 107
 Greater Snow 32, 105
 Grass-bird 36, 145
 Grebe, Horned 9, 53
 Pied-billed 9, 54
 Green-shank 50, 150
 Gull, American Herring 12, 60
 Bonaparte's 12, 61
 Great Black-backed 12, 59
 Laughing 12, 61
 Mackerel 64
 Ring-billed 12, 60

 Heron, Black-crowned Night 39, 126
 Great Blue 38, 118
 Great White 37, 117
 Green 39, 125
 Little Blue 38, 39, 124
 Louisiana 39, 122
 Snowy 38, 120
 Ward's 38, 118
 Würdemann's 118
 Yellow-crowned Night 39, 127
 Ibis, Glossy 35, 113
 Scarlet 35, 36, 112
 White 35, 111
 White-faced 35, 114
 Wood 36, 114

 Jaeger, Long-tailed 11, 58
 Parasitic 11, 57

 Killdeer 51, 160
 Knot 46, 134

 Limpkin 41, 131
 Loon 10, 55
 " Red-throated 10, 56
 Mallard 24, 25, 83
 Man-o'-War Bird 21, 79
 Merganser, American 22, 80
 Hooded 23, 82
 Red-breasted 22, 23, 81
 Mother Cary's Chicken 71
 Mud-hen 43, 137

 Old Squaw 29, 100
 Old Wife 100
 Oyster-catcher, American 52, 164

 Pelican, American White 20, 77
 Brown 20, 78
 Petrel, Black-capped 17, 70
 White-bellied 17, 71

 Wilson's 17, 71
 Phalarope, Gray 138
 Northern 44
 Red 138
 Pintail 21, 91
 Plover, Golden 51, 160
 Belted Piping 162
 Black-bellied 158
 Black-breasted 50
 Killdeer 51, 160
 Mountain 51, 163
 Piping 51, 162
 Ring-neck 51, 161
 Semipalmated 161
 Upland 16, 151
 Wilson's 51, 162

 Rail, Black 12, 135
 Carolina 12, 134
 Clapper 11, 133
 Florida Clapper 134
 King 11, 132
 Scott's 12, 134
 Virginia 12, 133
 Yellow 12, 135
 Redhead 28, 30, 94
 Ring-neck 161

 Sanderling 48, 148
 Sandpiper, Bartramian or Bartram's 46, 154
 Buff-breasted 17, 155
 Least 48, 146
 Pectoral 46, 145
 Purple 47, 145
 Red-backed 47, 147
 Semipalmated 48, 147
 Solitary 47, 152
 Spotted 48, 155
 Stilt 47, 144
 Western 47
 " semipalmated 148
 White-rumped 48, 146
 Scoter, American 31, 101
 Surf 30, 31, 103
 White-winged 31, 102
 Shearwater, Audubon's 17, 70
 Greater 16, 69
 Sheldrakes 22
 Shoveller 26, 90
 Sickle-bill 156
 Skimmer, Black 15, 68
 Snake Bird 19, 75
 Snipe, English 45, 141
 Red-breasted 45, 143
 Robin 144
 Western Red-breasted 143
 Wilson's 45, 141
 Sora 42, 134
 South Southerly 100

Spoonbill, Roseate	34, 110	Least	15, 65
Sprigtail	91	Noddy	14, 67
Stilt, Black-necked	44, 140	Roseate	14, 65
Storks	36	Royal	13, 63
Swan, Whistling	33, 108	Sooty	13, 66
Swimmers, Long-winged	57	Tropic Bird, Yellow-billed	17, 72
Totipalmate	72	Turkey, Water	19, 75
Tube-nosed	69	Turnstone	52, 164
Teal, Blue-winged	26, 89	Whistler	29, 30, 99
Cinnamon	27, 89	Widgeon, American	87
Green-winged	27, 88	Baldpate	25
Tern, Black	15, 67	Willet	49, 153
Bridled	14, 66	" Western	49, 154
Cabot's	13, 63	Woodcock, American	45, 141
Caspian	13, 62	Yellowlegs, Greater	49, 151
Common	13, 64	Summer	46, 151
Forster's	14, 64	Winter	49, 151
Gull-billed	15, 62		

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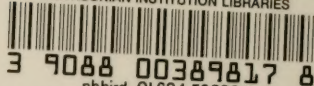
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